The Literary Digest

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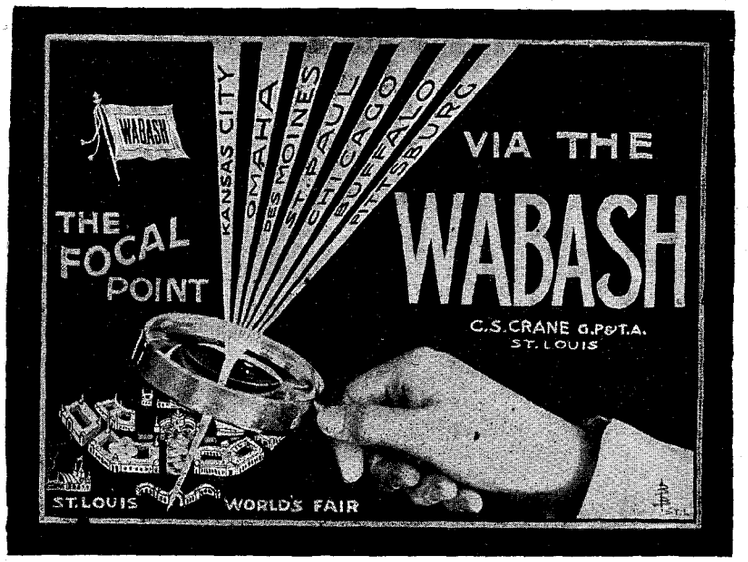

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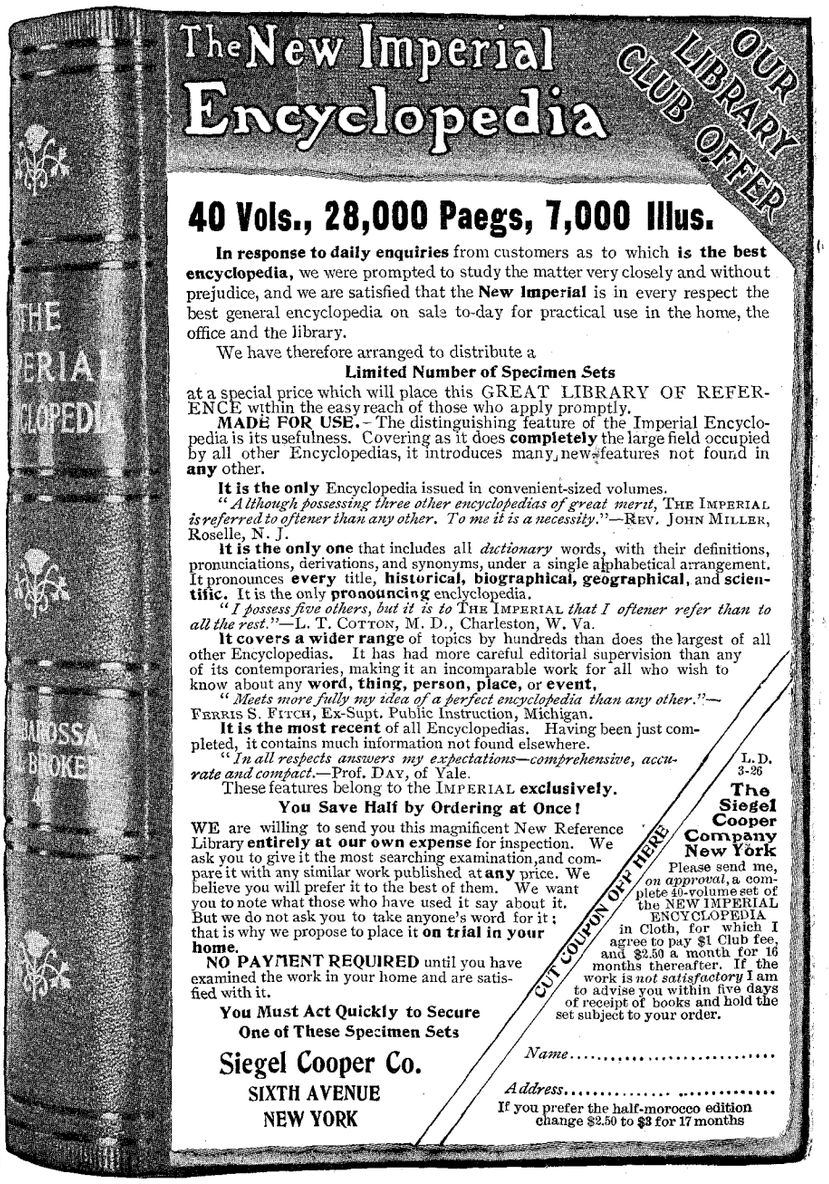
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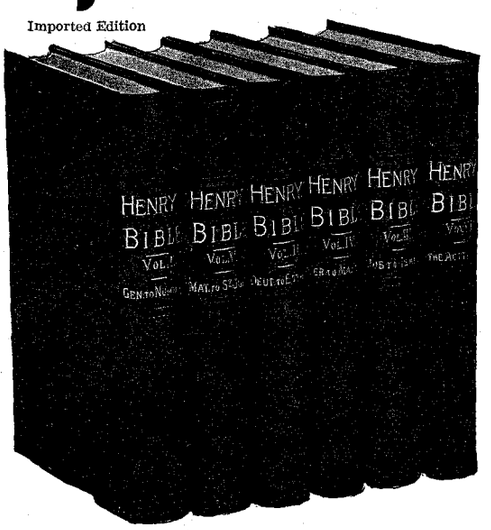

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

HOW THE MERGER DECISION IS REGARDED.

APPROVAL marks the comment of most of the press, the country over, upon the Supreme Court's decision of March 14, declaring the Northern Securities Company an illegal corporation, existing in restraint of trade, and, therefore, in violation of the Sherman act. The decision "is in accord with the will and wish of the great majority of the American people," and "will prove for the best interests of the country," says the Baltimore *American* (Rep.); and the New Orleans *Times-Democrat* (Dem.) agrees that "the American people are to be congratulated on the fact that the Government has won a sweeping victory, and that this darling child of monopoly has been strangled in the cradle." "The citizens of the great Northwest, lying between the Mississippi River and the Pacific Ocean," remarks the Milwaukee *Sentinel* (Rep.), "will feel more comfortable in knowing that the merger threat no longer hangs over their heads"; and Governor Van Sant, of Minnesota, who voices the feeling of many in that region, says that in his opinion "the decision means more to the people of our country than any event since the great Civil War." Turning to Wall Street, we find *The Wall Street Journal* declaring that "if that monopoly had been upheld, there would have been nothing to prevent its extension so as to include all the railroads of the United States, and that would have been the first step toward government ownership, and perhaps industrial socialism." A brief history of the great merger is given at the end of this article.

"Now, gentlemen, what are you going to do next?" the New York *World* (Ind. Dem.) asks the President and the Attorney-General; and a number of other newspapers, and, presumably, many corporation magnates, would like to know too. Well, Attorney-General Knox says that "the Government does not mean to run amuck," and the attitude of Justice Brewer is taken to mean that the court will not uphold the Government in every suit it may bring under the Sherman act; but there is a loud newspaper call for an anti-trust hunt, nevertheless. It may be a suspicious circumstance that this advice to the President comes largely from those who would like to see him defeated next fall. The Hartford *Times* (Ind. Dem.) calls upon Mr. Knox to bring "a thousand or more suits at once"; and the New York *Times* (Ind. Dem.) avers that "nothing but the most contemptible hypocrisy and cowardice can now restrain the Administration from letting loose all the dogs of war upon the guilty restrainers of trade." The Richmond *Times-Dispatch* remarks that if the President takes this advice, "he may bring on disaster in the financial and industrial world," and if he does not, "the anti-trust people will accuse him of cowardice," so that "altogether the President's position seems to be somewhat embarrassing." Several Washington correspondents say that the Administration has no idea of resting on its laurels, and will proceed with its program against the beef trust and other combinations.

JUSTICE DAVID JOSIAH BREWER,

Whose independent opinion is thought to indicate that the court will uphold the government's anti-trust suits only when "unreasonable" restraint of trade is proved.

The court's decision against the merger is given by the narrow margin of five to four, the majority consisting of Justices Harlan, Brewer, Brown, McKenna, and Day, and the minority consisting of Chief Justice Fuller and Justices Peckham, White, and Holmes. An important feature of the decision is the independent opinion handed down by Justice Brewer, holding that the Sherman act can apply only to corporations that exist in "unreasonable" restraint of trade. It is widely believed, therefore, that in future cases, if the Government does not show the restraint of trade to be unreasonable, Justice Brewer will side with the present minority in a decision favorable to the corporation. If this expectation is correct, it is remarked, the purpose of Senator Foraker's proposed amendment to the Sherman act, to make it apply only to "unreasonable," restraint, is accomplished by the court. Another interesting feature of the present decision is the fact that Chief Justice Fuller and Justice Peckham, who were part of the majority in the decision against the Trans-Missouri Freight Association, are now found among the four who read opinions in favor of the Northern Securities Company, altho the principles in the two cases are commonly considered to be almost identical.

The majority opinion is written by Justice Harlan. He says in part:

"No scheme or device could more certainly come within the words of the act, 'combination in the form of a trust or otherwise . . . in restraint of commerce among the States or with foreign nations,' or could more effectively and certainly suppress free competition between the constituent companies.

"This combination is, within the meaning of the act, a 'trust'; but if not, it is a combination in restraint of interstate and inter-

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national commerce, and that is enough to bring it under the condemnation of the act. The mere existence of such a combination, and the power acquired by the holding company as trustee for the combination, constitute a menace to and a restraint upon that freedom of commerce which Congress intended to recognize and protect, and which the public is entitled to have protected.

"If not destroyed, all the advantages that would naturally come to the public under the operation of the general law of competition, as between the Great Northern and Northern Pacific Railway companies, will be lost, and the entire commerce of the immense territory in the northern part of the United States between the great lakes and the Pacific at Puget Sound will be at the mercy of a single holding corporation, organized in a State distant from the people of that territory."

Justice Brewer says, in his independent opinion:

"Instead of holding that the anti-trust act included all contracts, reasonable or unreasonable, in restraint of interstate trade, the ruling should have been that the contracts there presented were in themselves unreasonable restraints of interstate trade, and, therefore, within the scope of the act. Congress did not intend by that act to reach and destroy those minor contracts in partial restraint of trade which the long course of decisions at common law had affirmed were reasonable and ought to be upheld. The purpose rather was to add a statutory prohibition with prescribed penalties and remedies to nullify those contracts which were in direct restraint of trade, unreasonable and against public policy."

Justice White, in the dissenting opinion, holds that "the ownership of stock in a state corporation can not be said to be in any sense traffic between the States or intercourse between them," and adds:

"The principle that the ownership of property is embraced within the power of Congress to regulate commerce, whenever that body deems that a particular character of ownership, if allowed to continue, may restrain commerce between the States or create a monopoly thereof, is in my opinion in conflict with the most elementary conception of rights of property. For it would follow if Congress deemed that the acquisition by one or more individuals engaged in interstate commerce of more than a certain amount of property would be prejudicial to interstate commerce, the amount of property held or the amount which could be employed in interstate commerce could be regulated."

Ex-President Cleveland Explains His Record.—"The question of the Government taking legal action against the so-called trusts was given much consideration during my last Administration from 1893 to 1897. I recall that I examined closely the laws and received reports from Mr. Olney, who was then Attorney-General, as to what could be done. I was most anxious to have something done, but we were blocked by decisions of the Supreme Court, which at that time tied our hands. Mr. Harmon, who was Attorney-General for the last two years, also endeavored to push matters.

"In my last message to Congress, in December, 1896, I dealt with the question. There was considerable criticism leveled at Mr. Olney by the newspapers because he did not prosecute some trusts. That criticism was not justified. The decision of the Supreme Court, as I pointed out in my message, restricted our action against trusts unless they were engaged in interstate transportation.

"There was a distinct difference drawn between railroads and purely producing combinations. It could not be said that the sugar trust, or the beef trust, or the Standard Oil Company was directly engaged in interstate transportation. They were engaged in the manufacture and sale of products.

"There was no opportunity to take any such action as this merger suit. The case did not present itself. If contracts existed among these business combinations for the restraint of trade, they were kept secret and no evidence offered itself on which to act. At that time this merger of railroads had not been formed, so that there was no action of this sort to take. You must bear in mind the distinction laid down in previous decisions of the court regarding trusts that exist merely within the State and those engaged in transportation between the various States."—*Ex-President Cleveland, in an interview published in the Philadelphia Press.*

What a Presidential Aspirant Advises.—"The Sherman act provides that 'every person' who violates it 'shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding $5,000, or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or both said punishments, at the discretion of the court.'

"Under this law, which the Supreme Court convicts him of having broken, James J. Hill, president of the Northern Securities Company, can be indicted, prosecuted, and sent to jail.

"Why should any tenderness be shown Hill? Poor men are not allowed to break the law and escape the consequences. Shall Hill be exempt from punishment because he is wealthy? Is there to be one kind of justice for the poor and another for the rich?

"Will President Roosevelt have the courage to instruct his Attorney-General to procure immediately the indictment of Hill—the courage to enforce the law against an offender who is at once rich and politically influential?

"If the weapon for destroying the criminal trusts offered to the Administration by the Supreme Court be rejected because of political timidity, then the usefulness of Monday's decision to the robbed people will be very small while Mr. Roosevelt remains in office.

"Attorney-General Knox hastens to reassure the alarmed trusts by volunteering the announcement that 'the Government does not mean to run amuck.'

"That remarkable utterance, read in the light of Mr. Knox's constant sheltering kindness to the coal trust and other predatory combines, will be universally understood to signify that the Government does not mean to apply the law as it has been laid down by the Supreme Court—unless the President, whose subordinate Mr. Knox is, shall order him to change his course.

"James J. Hill is precisely the kind of man that should be pursued with all possible vigor by the Government. He is a fine type of the 'captains of industry' who rely upon their wealth, and to political pull, which their wealth gives, to insure them against the law's penalties while they gather in unearned millions outside the law. . . . .

"In loyalty to the violated law, in the interest of the trust-ridden and trust-pillaged American people, now and hereafter, it is the duty of the President to order his Attorney-General to procure the indictment of James J. Hill and send him to jail, where he belongs."—*Mr. Hearst's New York American (Dem.).*

Resultant Situation Defined by a Morgan Newspaper.—"The right of combination among railway interests as construed to date by the Supreme Court of the United States, so far as the federal law is concerned, is as follows:

"First. Any individual may buy as many railway stocks as he chooses, provided the purchase is a bona fide one and is not accompanied by collusion on the part of those who sell the stocks to him.

"Second. A corporation can not act in this regard as an individual can, since a corporation is a creature of the law and without inalienable rights and privileges. This was decided years ago by the Supreme Court in the Pearsall case, when the Great Northern Railway sought to purchase a controlling interest in the Northern Pacific Railway Company.

"Third. A 'holding company' endeavoring to accomplish a combination of railway interests conflicting with interstate commerce competition and seeking to justify its existence on the ground that tho it possesses the power to restrain commerce it does not actually so restrain it, can not maintain itself under the law. This is the point of the Northern Securities decision.

"So far as corporations in general are concerned, the question as to the illegality of combination among them is a question of fact in each instance. It is not to be assumed, as heretofore, that any and all such combinations are in restraint of interstate commerce. The character of every combination is to be ascertained distinctly and individually, and not under the arbitrary and all-embracing rule which has hitherto obtained that 'all contract restraints, reasonable or unreasonable, imposed by a combination or monopoly upon such trade and commerce' are within the pale of the anti-trust law. Finally, it is of the utmost importance that the construction of the anti-trust law as now determined limits that law in its application to interstate commerce and in no way touches manufacturing. In other words, the previous decisions of the Supreme Court in the sugar cases, whereby purely industrial and manufacturing corporations were held to be not within the purview of the anti-trust act, when concerned in such interstate commerce, still stand."—*The New York Sun.*

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A Democratic Confession.—"1. The anti-trust law was framed by a Republican, was passed by a Republican House and a Republican Senate, and was signed by a Republican President.

"2. The law remained a dead letter on the statute-books during the entire second term of Grover Cleveland, a Democratic President. Through those four years of Democratic Administration all appeals and all efforts of *The World* to have the law enforced

"PEACE BE WITH YOU!"

KNOX: "The Government does not mean to run amuck."
—Thorndike in Mr. Hearst's *American*.

were met with sneers, jeers, and open contempt from a Democratic Attorney-General, Richard Olney, who pretended that the law was unconstitutional, and who would do nothing toward prosecuting violators of it.

"3. The first effort to enforce the law was made by Theodore Roosevelt, a Republican President. The first Attorney-General to vigorously prosecute offenders and to test the law was a Republican Attorney-General, Philander C. Knox.

"4. The decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, given as a finality from which there is no appeal, upholding the law as perfectly constitutional and absolutely impregnable in every respect, as *The World* for twelve years constantly insisted, was due to five judges, every one of whom is a Republican.

"5. The dissenting minority of the court included every Democratic judge of that tribunal, to wit: Chief-Justice Fuller, of Illinois; Mr. Justice White, of Louisiana, and Mr. Justice Peckham, of New York. All these distinguished Democrats not only voted against the constitutionality of the law, but denounced it as a danger to the republic.

"6. Under these circumstances it does not seem probable that the Democrats can make great capital in seeking to monopolize the anti-trust issue and charging the Republican party with the crime of being owned body and soul by the trusts.

"It is just as well to record some plain truths, however unpleasant or surprising."—*The New York World* (*Ind. Dem.*).

"Impossible Situation Created."—"It must be obvious to all that an impossible situation has been created. As matters stand, there is hardly a railroad merger in the country, recently or long since perfected, which does not fall under the ban of the law. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company, for example, is violating law in buying and holding stock for control of the Baltimore and Ohio, the Chesapeake and Ohio, and the Norfolk and Western Railroad. What has been done in a general way toward railroad combination can not be undone without throwing the transportation interests of the country into hopeless and disastrous confusion. Nor is it desirable that transportation be thrown back upon many small and independent companies.

"It becomes important and necessary, therefore, that the federal anti-trust act be amended to exclude railroads specifically from its provisions. They are essentially monopolistic, and competition can never obtain in their operations except to a limited extent. And the United States Government must proceed to adjust its relations with the roads on the theory that they are monopolies, to be dealt with accordingly.

"This requires that the roads shall be allowed to consolidate to any extent they wish, but that they can not be allowed to make what rates they please. Congress, therefore, should amend the anti-trust act to exclude railroads, and then vest in the interstate commerce commission the power to regulate railroad rates and charges, and this should be done at the present session."—*The Springfield Republican* (*Ind.*).

Chronology of the Case.—"On May 9, 1901, corner in Northern Pacific stock, which reached 1,000 on competitive bids of Morgan and Harriman interests. Panic in Wall Street. On May 20, corner on London market; compulsory closing of defaulted contracts to deliver Northern Securities suspended by Stock Exchange.

"On November 13, 1901, formation of Northern Securities under New Jersey charter. Northern Pacific stock taken in at 115 and Great Northern at 180, in the stock of the new company. Authorized capital stock $400,000,000, of which about $365,000,000 has been issued in return for about 99 per cent. of the Northern Pacific and 75 per cent. of Great Northern.

"February 1, 1902, Northern Securities paid its first dividend of 1 per cent. quarterly; since increased to 1½ per cent.

"On February 19, 1902, Attorney-General Knox announced that he had been instructed to bring suit against the company for the Government, on the ground that the company was in violation of the Sherman anti-trust law. Congress subsequently authorized the expediting of the case by a direct hearing in the Circuit Court, instead of passing the District Court first.

"On February 24, 1903, the Supreme Court dismissed the State of Minnesota's suit to enjoin the Northern Securities, alleging lack of jurisdiction.

"On April 9, 1903, the Circuit Court at St. Paul unanimously declared the company a combination in restraint of trade under the Sherman law. Appeal being taken, a stay of proceedings was

"GEE, WHIZ!"
—Nelan in the New York *Globe*.

granted, allowing the constituent companies and the Northern Securities Company to declare and pay their regular dividends pending final decision by the Supreme Court.

"On September 3, 1903, Judge Lochren rendered decision in case of State of Minnesota vs. Northern Securities, to the effect that the company was not in violation of law. Decision appealed to Supreme Court.

"On December 14, 1903, hearing in the appeal of the company from the Circuit Court decision of April 3 was begun at Washington. The State of Minnesota case was heard in the first week of January."—*The New York Evening Post*.

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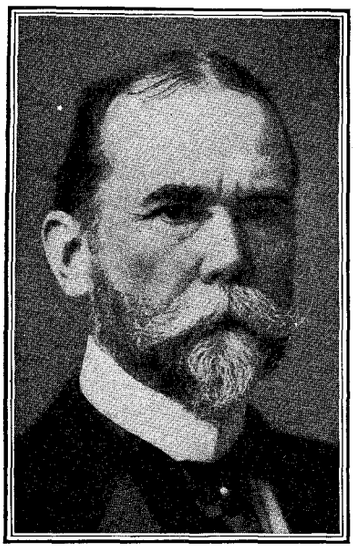
EUROPEAN NIGHTMARES AND SECRETARY HAY.

SECRETARY HAY "represents 'x'," says a seemingly semi-official statement issued in St. Petersburg; he is an "unknown quantity," whose uncertainty "is a veritable nightmare to Europe." "We are at sea as to what to expect from Mr. Hay," continues this statement; "American diplomacy in these later days is so aggressive, so startlingly sudden in the way it poses propositions to the remainder of the world, that we have not time to prepare for the shock." These anonymous but apparently official remarks are provoked by Secretary Hay's circular note on the neutralization of China. "The level-headed statesmen of Europe," we are told in this pronunciamento, were laboring manfully to prevent "a general catastrophe" after the outbreak of hostilities, when Mr. X. came along with his unexpected proposition and "almost ditched them." To be sure, as it turns out, everybody agreed to it, and "it really contributed to the trend which all desired"; but, if everything had been otherwise, it "might have proved disastrous."



"The present situation is like an algebraic problem—every quantity of the equation is known except one, and that one is Mr. Hay. He represents 'x.' If we only knew what he stood for, or what he intended to do, the solution would be easy."

This plaint arouses recrimination in our newspapers and resentment in Washington. Russian diplomats have the same difficulty in understanding American diplomacy, argue our papers, that Macchiavelli would have had in understanding the Washington cherry-tree incident. Error can not understand truth; darkness can not understand light. Thus the Philadelphia *Inquirer* says: "There is no mystery about the attitude of the United States. The trouble is that the Russians are themselves so accustomed to duplicity and dissimulation that they can't conceive it possible that other people may practise telling the plain, the simple, the straightforward truth." And so say the Philadelphia *Ledger*, the St. Paul *Dispatch*, the San Francisco *Call* and *Chronicle*, the New York *Evening Mail*, and many other journals. The Washington *Evening Star* quotes what it calls the Russian "whine," and remarks:

THE ETERNAL QUESTION OF EUROPE.
—Leipziger in the Detroit *News*.

"The only reply to this is that Mr. X. will remain on deck, and will continue to bring his famous rays to bear on the situation whenever the interests of the United States demand it. And with their aid there will be no difficulty in determining just where the trouble may be from time to time as developments may concern us. Mr. X. may be an unknown quantity in Russia, but he is very well known in the United States, and so highly esteemed and implicitly trusted that whatever he does is likely to be indorsed at home."

The President, according to the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press*, is much annoyed by this Russian criticism, and intends to let the St. Petersburg authorities know what he thinks about it. The Hay note, instead of being a surprise to "the level-headed statesmen of Europe," was suggested by Germany, a Power supposed to be uncommonly friendly to Russia. The real "Mr. X.," therefore, and inspirer of European nightmares, would seem to be the Czar's good friend William II. Says this correspondent:

"The fact that Russia made the note suggested by Germany the basis for a bitter complaint against the United States has angered the President more than the complaint itself. Mr. Roosevelt believes that Russia already fears defeat by the Japanese, and she is paving the way, in that event, to throw the onus on this country on the theory that American sympathy and support made it possible for Japan to win and by that means arouse the enmity of European Powers, and especially France, against the United States.

"It was decided to-day to give no official recognition to the latest complaint, but the President will let it be unofficially known at St. Petersburg that he resents it."

THE HOUSE POSTAL UPROAR.

THE outburst of rage with which the House of Representatives received the postal report accusing 191 Congressmen of irregularities (considered in these columns last week) affords material for some interesting remarks by various newspapers upon Congressional psychology. "That document is the production of a liar and a scoundrel!" shouted Mr. Hill (Rep.), of Connecticut and "the whole House," we are told, "broke into a tempest of applause; cheers and shouts rent the air, and all business was suspended for several minutes, while the Congressmen rushed over to Mr. Hill, shook his hand, and shouted their approval." General Grosvenor (Rep.), of Ohio, denounced the report as an "outrage" and a matter of "infinite rascality," and suggested that no "self-respecting Congressman," could "ever enter the office of a man who will produce such a document as that." And we read that he "was wildly cheered by members who deserted their seats and crowded around him twenty deep." And so the denunciation of the unknown author of the report went on for a large part of two days, at first in the supposition that the report was the work of Mr. Bristow, and, when his authorship was denied, in the supposition that it was prepared under the eye of the Postmaster-General, and perhaps with the approval of the President. Indeed, Mr. Cooper (Rep.), of Wisconsin, protested that the debate had "degenerated, as I feared it might degenerate, into a covert attack upon the President of the United States." The climax was reached when Mr. William Alden Smith (Rep.), of Michigan, after denouncing the "guilty author" of the report, exclaimed: "Mr. Speaker, whenever the people want a popular leader, they come to the House of Representatives to get him; and I hope the day is not far distant when the people will deservedly crown that great commoner, the

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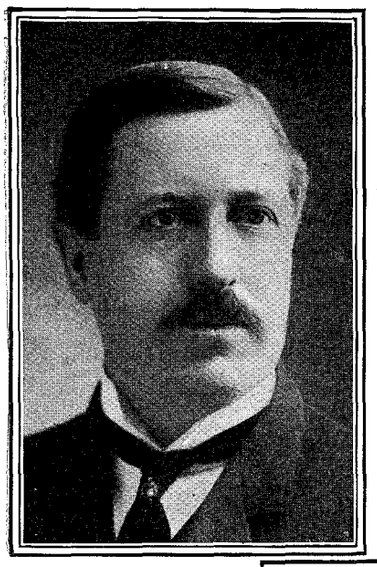
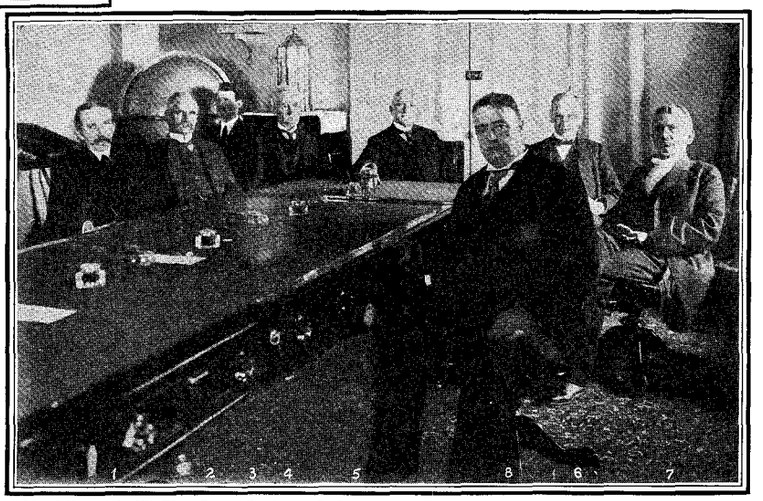


JESSE OVERSTREET,
Chairman of the House Postal Committee.

"He did not show great political acumen in handling this particular piece of dynamite. . . . The explosion that followed is unprecedented, and its effect may be to drive Mr. Overstreet into private life, upset the political slate in Indiana, and possibly retire Mr. Payne from the Cabinet."

Speaker of this House, with the Presidential office, for which he is so admirably fitted." At this, we are told, the House "went crazy; shrieks and yells rent the air, men waved their arms and rose spontaneously in their places." The speaker sternly repressed the demonstration, but the House had shown how it felt. The furor ended in the appointment of a special House committee to investigate the allegations of the report.



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1. Rep. C. L. Bartlet, of Georgia; 2. Rep. V. H. Metcalf, of California; 3. Mr. M. E. Reidere, clerk to committee; 4. Rep. R. R. Hitt, of Illinois; 5. Rep. S. W. McCall, of Massachusetts, chairman; 6. Rep. T. E. Burton, of Ohio; 7. Rep. William Richardson, of Alabama; 8. Rep. A. L. McDermott, of New Jersey.

COMMITTEE TO PROBE HOUSE POSTAL CHARGES.

The Kansas City *Star* (Ind.) looks upon this eruption of wrath as "a semiconfession of guilt." "If Representatives are guiltless, why this explosion?" it asks; and the Buffalo *Express* (Ind. Rep.) observes similarly that this "extraordinary outburst" has "done more to establish the impropriety of their acts than anything alleged in the report itself." The Boston *Herald* (Ind.) remarks that matters of record "can not be shown to be false by howling protestations," and it doubts if "all the loud and abusive talk affects public opinion favorably." In fact, "when members of Congress shall get over being very angry," the Philadelphia *Record* (Ind. Dem.) predicts, "they will realize that they have been making donkeys of themselves."

The Washington correspondent of the New York *Sun* sees in the affair a manifestation of the ill-feeling between the House and the President. He says:

"Why do the heathen rage? It is not that they are guilty. It is more likely, but the explosion of their long pent-up feelings of animosity and antipathy to President Roosevelt and certain members of his cabinet personally. No State is more enthusiastic for Roosevelt's nomination than Michigan, and no State is more certain to give him her delegation and her electoral votes. Nevertheless Mr. Smith was probably but voicing the feelings of Michigan's representatives in the lower House generally when he complained so bitterly that Congressmen have no rights that Washington officials, from top to bottom, are bound to respect.

"There is more truth than poetry in what Mr. Smith said on this point. The Congressmen, especially those from rural districts, are not at all pleased at the fact that they are not coddled to the Presidential bosom now as they were wont to be in the days of McKinley. No opportunity is given them for long confidential talks, and the health and happiness of the members of their families are not a source of solicitude to the Administration. A Senator is, of course, as Mr. Smith says, a friend of the family at the White House and elsewhere, but not so a Representative. He gets short shrift, and is made to feel by all high officials that he has certain public privilege that can not be denied him, but, beyond this, he complains that he is made to feel that he amounts to little or nothing.

"Whatever the justice of Mr. Smith's complaint, so enthusiastically and vociferously indorsed by practically the entire membership of the House, there is no doubt of its immediate effect. The statesmen are mad clear through, and the chief objects of their wrath are President Roosevelt and Postmaster-General Payne. Bristow seems to have slid from under by declaring that he had nothing to do with the preparation of the document. It came to the House over the signature of the Postmaster-General, and presumably with the knowledge and consent of the President of the United States. But this is mere presumption. The President was not aware of its existence, and the Postmaster-General had no exact knowledge of its contents.

"The real culprit is Chairman Overstreet, of the Post-Office committee. He is secretary of the Republican Congressional committee, but even his friends admit that he did not show great political acumen in handling this particular piece of dynamite. The House had not called for the report, but Overstreet asked for it in a letter signed by him as chairman of the committee, and he got it. Then, because Hay, of Virginia, a Democrat, threatened to have a dragnet resolution passed, Overstreet anticipated him by giving the report to the House and to the public. The explosion that followed is unprecedented and its effect may be to drive Overstreet into private life, upset the

ROUGH RIDING.
—Rogers in the New York *Herald*.

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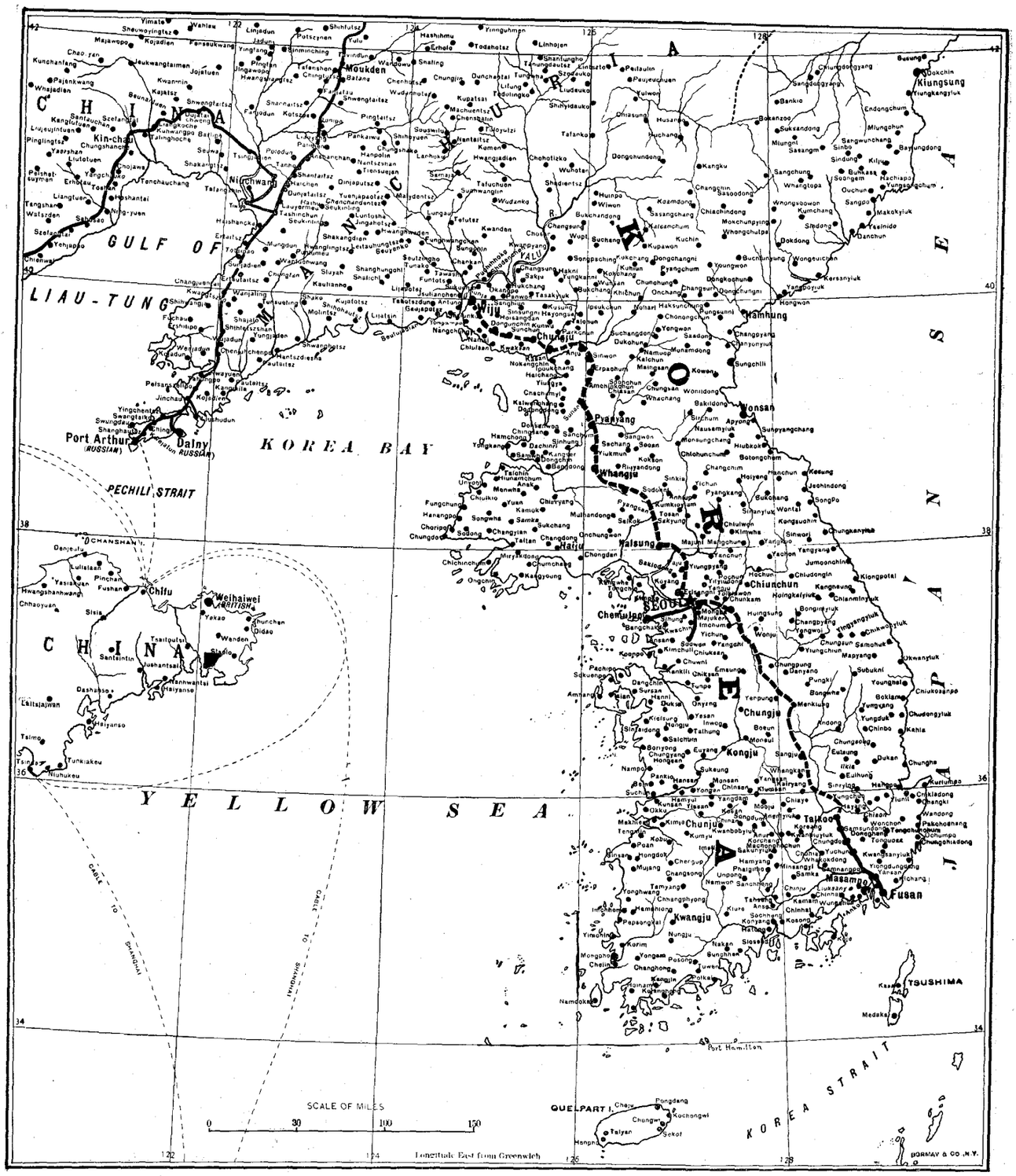

DETAILED MAP OF THE SCENE OF WAR.

Railroads.
Proposed Railroad.

To illustrate the land campaign. From a special map prepared by the Military Information Division of the United States War Department from the latest Russian and Japanese authorities.

political slate in Indiana, and possibly retire Mr. Payne from the cabinet."

Other papers regard the explosion as a righteous display of virtuous indignation. It "is in all probability amply justified," believes the Columbus *Dispatch* (Ind.), and so think the New York *Globe* (Rep.), and the Charleston *Post* (Dem.). The Philadelphia *Press* (Rep.), edited by Charles Emory Smith, who was formerly Postmaster-General, and who therefore speaks advisedly, says that the Congressmen "are justly aggrieved at being placed in a false light before the country." And it adds:

"What is the essence of the matter? In three cases members of Congress leased their own property to the Government for post-offices in technical violation of the law, the Government desiring the property for the purpose and the rent being confessedly reasonable. In the remainder of the 191 cases the members recommended an increase in rental or an increase in the allowance for

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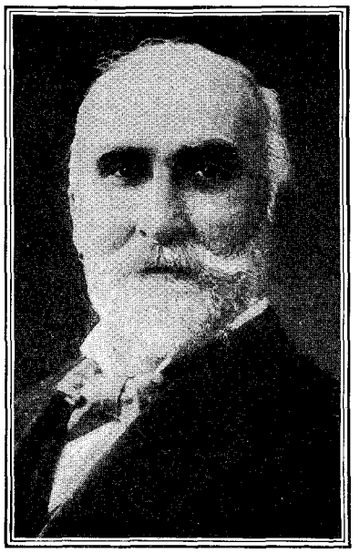
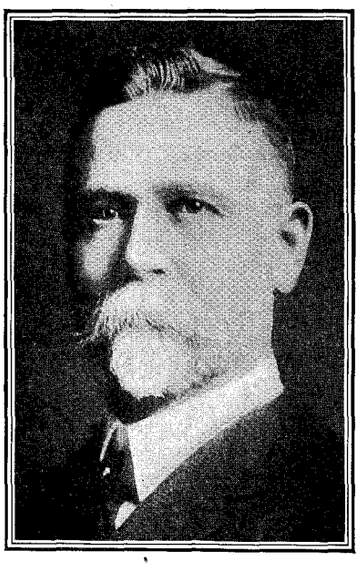
MAJ. B. M. HARROD,

Of New Orleans, member of the Mississippi River Commission and builder of the New Orleans drainage system.



COL. FRANK J. HECKER,

Of Detroit, Director of Transportation during the war with Spain.



C. EWALD GRUNSKY,

Of San Francisco, an eminent hydraulic engineer.

THREE MEMBERS OF THE PANAMA CANAL COMMISSION

Portraits of the other four members of the commission appeared in our issue of March 5, page 321.

clerk hire ranging for the most part from $50 a year up to $200 or $300. In a few cases the proposed increase was excessive and unwarranted by the business of the locality. But in the great majority of the instances it was fair and justified. Whether on examination it proved to be right or not, there was nothing wrong in transmitting the recommendation. Nothing accrued to the member. In most cases he was only forwarding to the department the application of a postmaster or a constituent. He made his recommendation with the understanding that it was to be granted if consistent with the regulations of the service. The responsibility was with the department, and no department officer who was fit for his place would undertake to shirk it.

"Now, that is all there is of the whole matter! And yet on that slender foundation was built the entire fabric of the widespread misrepresentation that 191 Congressmen had been guilty of graft and were to be classed with the indicted and convicted grafters! Justly resenting this gross aspersion, no wonder Congress flamed with righteous indignation."

WOOD A MAJOR-GENERAL.

NO surprise is expressed at the Senate's confirmation of the President's appointment of Leonard Wood to be a major-general. It has long been conceded that the nomination would be confirmed, and when Senator Hanna died, the opposition to confirmation became practically without a leader. When the vote was taken, on Friday of last week, only 16 Senators opposed confirmation, with 45 voting in favor of it. It is understood that the charges brought against him largely failed to materialize. Walter Wellman says in a Washington despatch to the Philadelphia *Press*:

"The truth is that not one of the serious charges made against General Wood have been sustained. Nothing that precluded his promotion was proved by the rigid inquiry made into his record and character, and the sixteen Senators who voted against him based their opposition largely upon small complaints and generalities. The one serious charge against General Wood which had a little evidence in his favor, enough at least to make an impression upon some Senators, was that he had not been careful enough while serving as a subordinate in Cuba to maintain an attitude of strict loyalty to his superior officers. But most Senators regarded such small indiscretions of this sort as General Wood was guilty of as too trifling to be considered fatal to his chance of promotion, and more as evidence of the natural impatience of an energetic and most effective officer with an easy-going or careless military administration.

"A little more than five years hence it is probable General Wood will become lieutenant-general and chief-of-staff, and thus be at the head of the American army before he is fifty years old."

The New York *World*, however, expresses a hope that while "Dr. Wood" is at the head of the army, it will not be so unfortunate as to get into a fight; and the New York *Sun*, which led the newspaper opposition to him, says similarly:

"Let us all join in heartfelt prayer that the mortal test may never come, that the years of 'Leonard Wood, lieutenant-general commanding,' may be years of profound peace for this republic!"

SERVICE PENSIONS WITHOUT ACT OF CONGRESS.

SEVERE criticism is leveled at the Administration by some of the newspapers, as a result of the new "ruling," which directs the payment of service pensions based on age to veterans of the Civil War, thus achieving the same result as the passage of the proposed Service-Pension bill by Congress. The New York *Times* declares it "one of the most remarkable and impudent usurpations of power ever witnessed in the United States"; and the Philadelphia *Ledger* says that this "legislation by executive order . . . is practically as well as theoretically obnoxious." The new ruling by Commissioner Ware is in line with the act approved by President Cleveland in 1887, granting a service pension to veterans of the Mexican war. That act was passed thirty-nine years after the close of the Mexican war, and, as Commisioner Ware says, "it would seem that if, thirty-nine years after the expiration of service, a Mexican War soldier was entitled to a pension at sixty-two years, and no other requisite for drawing pension should exist except age, that to soldiers of the Civil War, who fought vastly more and longer, at least as good a rule ought to apply." The pension law of 1890 provides that all persons who honorably served ninety

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days or more in the Civil War, upon proof of permanent disability," incapacitating them from manual labor," shall be entitled to a pension ranging from $6 to $12 a month. Under the new order, unless it be modified, or Congress interferes, veterans who have reached the age of 62 will be deemed disabled one-half in ability to perform manual labor, and will be entitled to a pension of $6 a month. After attaining 65 years the pension will be $8 a month; after 68 years, $10 a month; and after 70 years $12 a month. Allowances not exceeding $12 a month will continue to be made as heretofore, where disability other than old age exists. Officials are unable to tell just now what the new plan will cost the Government. Commissioner Ware says in an interview:

"I am not able to say what expense the bill would entail in the shape of additional payments. The extent to which it will augment the necessity for further appropriations can not be told. There is a great unknown army that has never applied for pensions. It is not known whether they would or whether they intend to. It will, without doubt, increase the payments to some extent, but no one is able to fix the amount. The bureau has not considered that as the proper element of consideration."

One of the chief objections to the order seems to be the claim that the administration has usurped legislative authority. "There has been an impression that we are to elect a President next November," says the New York *World;* "it is a mistake. Unless Mr. Roosevelt be totally at sea regarding the nature of his office, we are to elect a czar." No other potentate, it adds, "would venture to assume such sweeping legislative powers as have been assumed by the Rough Rider in the White House in enacting by his sole will that service-pension law which Congress itself has never dared to pass." "This playing fast and loose with law is dangerous business," says the New York *Journal of Commerce*, "and no more to be justified in allowing pensions than in anything else." The Rochester *Post Express* objects to the plan on the ground "that a very large number of veterans will be able to draw pensions when they are not in the slightest need of them."

However, a few papers see some good in the new order. "It ends a controversy that has driven a number of Pension commissioners from office," says the Philadelphia *Inquirer*, "and settles a policy that ought to satisfy all concerned unless it be the professional agents, who thereby find much of their business taken away from them, for no special services are required." The New York *Globe* declares that "there can be little doubt that the additional annual expense of service pensions by this method will be less by many millions than it would have been had a regular service pension act been passed by Congress." But it thinks that "if Congress had been asked for and had given authority to issue it, there would have been no objection whatever."

THE SULLY FAILURE.

WHAT is said by the New York *Herald* to be "the greatest failure in the history of cotton speculation in this country" is made the subject of much moralizing by the newspapers. The Sully campaign in cotton is characterized by the same paper as "the most sensational known in the history of cotton," and one "whose operations have revolutionized the cotton markets of the world." The news of the great leader's failure, therefore, came like "a dynamite bomb" into the markets of New York and New Orleans and produced a profound sensation throughout this country and Europe. "There will not be much weeping in Lancashire" over the fall of the man whose operations have closed so many cotton-mills, says a despatch from that region, and another from Boston says that "Boston is not mourning." Word from Providence says there are "no regrets" there, and a Fall River despatch reports that the news came to that mill city as "a welcome relief." In New Orleans, we are told, "there is much quiet rejoicing." Now New Orleans is in the center of the cotton-growing, not the milling, region, and the "quiet rejoicing" there would seem to need some explanation. Well, according to the New York *Sun*, the explanation of the rejoicing is also the explanation of the failure. Here is the story:

"The decline in cotton which ended yesterday in Mr. Sully's suspension began last Monday. There is little doubt that it was a movement manipulated by the powerful New Orleans cotton clique, which consists of Col. W. P. Brown, Frank Hayne, and Thomas J. Majors, assisted by a powerful combination of commission houses in this city. The explanation of the attitude of the New Orleans clique toward Mr. Sully is said to be that they believe he at one time sold out on them, causing them a heavy loss. This was said to be retribution.

"As the story goes, when Mr. Sully visited New Orleans early this year he entered into an agreement with the three big New Orleans interests to bull cotton. He returned to New York and within a short time cotton had been put up to 17.55 cents a pound. Soon afterward came the announcement that Mr. Sully had closed out his line of cotton and that he was going to Palm Beach, Fla., for a few weeks rest.

"The announcement is said to have persuaded the New Orleans clique that Mr. Sully had 'sold out on them.' A break in the market of some $20 a bale followed it. Mr. Sully soon afterward announced that he had postponed his vacation.

"Wall Street understands that since that break in the market the New Orleans people have been waiting to get at Sully. Their opportunity is said to have come two weeks ago, when Sully began to take up the manipulation of cotton once more. After a trip to Chicago, where he joined the Board of Trade, Sully began to buy cotton at 14 cents. He kept buying it until last Monday, when it touched 16.65 cents.

"The New Orleans party found out that he had an immense line of cotton—some 300,000 bales it is said—to swing. They began on Monday a selling movement to break the price. In this they were joined by the combination of New York commission houses, with the result that cotton has declined more than 400 points, or $20 a bale, in four days.

"The final stage of the attack came yesterday morning, when, beaten down by the sheer impact of thousands of bales of cotton hurled at a market already thoroughly frightened, Sully saw fraction after fraction slip away until his margins were exhausted and he was unable to meet deliveries. It was then that he sent into the exchange his abdication as cotton king."

Mr. Sully says that his embarrassment is only temporary and he expects to resume.

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

WE fear that Messrs. Dun and Bradstreet will have to revise the high opinion of Mr. Hearst after the campaign is over.—*The Atlanta Journal.*

THO reasonably proud of their industry, the Congressmen seem to resent the statement that they work like Beavers.—*The Philadelphia North American.*

IT must be a little galling to Russia to note that all the Americans who are volunteering to aid her are joining the hospital corps.—*The Washington Post.*

IF Secretary Hay had any idea that his taste in whiskers would awaken a responsive thrill in St. Petersburg he knows better now.—*The Chicago News.*

ONE of the government inspectors has reported that he finds "little change in the Indians." Probably the grafter saw the Indian first.—*The Washington Post.*

PRESIDENT LINCOLN of the Pullman Company might wish the problem of transporting the colored population were put up to some other man.—*The Chicago News.*

AFTER the winter fires come the spring floods. An intelligent cooperative system between the two would be warmly welcomed by suffering humanity.—*The Baltimore American.*

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT is practising the art of jiu-jutsu under a Japanese instructor. Perhaps it would be well for the Postmaster-General to run while he is still able to do so.—*The Chicago Record-Herald.*

A PROFESSOR in the University of California says that the lower part of that State is 3,000,000 years old. He probably secured his data from an examination of the dried prunes that are shipped from Southern California.—*The Olean Times.*

AMERICAN diplomacy appears to keep Europe side-stepping with all the alacrity a bunch of men would exhibit in getting away from a live wire. Europe does not know what Mr. Hay will or will not do next. Europe has our sympathy. Neither do we.—*The Houston Post.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

IS A WORLD-LANGUAGE FEASIBLE?

DURING the past twenty-five years two "universal languages" have been formulated by European scholars and presented to the world for its approval. The first, "Volapük," was invented in 1879 by J. M. Schleyer, a Bavarian priest, but was unfavorably received, and is now almost forgotten. The second, "Esperanto," was projected eight years later by Dr. L. Zamenhof, a Vienna savant, and has attained to a remarkable degree of popularity. Its claims have been indorsed by such distinguished men as Count Tolstoy and the late Max Müller, and at this moment are being seriously discussed in many countries. Prof. William Ostwald, of Leipsic, entertains great hopes for the future of "Esperanto," and has issued a brochure, entitled "Die Weltsprache" (The World Language), in which he argues as follows:

In many quarters the idea of a world-language, prepared in a practical way and along philological lines, has been deemed a vision and a wild phantasy; but such views are largely based on prejudice. We are not contending that men should give up their own tongue and all learn this new language, but we suggest that every man, in addition to his mother tongue, should learn a language that can serve as a medium of communication with all other peoples of the earth. Men have all along recognized the fact that they could accomplish vastly more than they do if they were not compelled to put so much time into the learning of other tongues. According to the program of the classical secondary schools of Germany, the Gymnasia, fully sixty per cent. of the time is devoted to the study of Greek, Latin, Hebrew, French, and English, and even in the semi-classical schools, the Realgymnasia, fifty per cent. of the time is given to the same work. If languages were eliminated from the course of study, our children would need to attend school but three hours a day. They would get the same training, for the purely educational value of language study is vastly overestimated.

If it is argued that a people can not learn two languages, we point to America, where the foreign immigrants all learn English, in addition to their mother tongue, without serious difficulty.

It has been proposed that instead of making a new and artificial tongue, the living English should be used; but it would be impossible to use English or any other living language, as to do so would be to give the nation speaking that language the greatest possible advantage over all others in trade and business; its books and periodicals would be read everywhere, and with this would come an undue influence on the thought and civilization of the world at large. It is also out of the question to use one of the dead languages, even the Latin. In the Middle Ages the attempt was made with Latin, but with doubtful success, as it was entirely too difficult to learn. Even after a nine-years' course in this tongue in the German Gymnasium, the graduates have an indifferent knowledge of it.

No; the proposed world-language must be an artificial language, and the experiments that have been made with the new Esperanto shows that this goes a long way toward the solution of the problem. At the recent International Geological Congress, held in Vienna, three of the delegates, a Norwegian, a Rumanian, and a Belgian, none of whom could understand the language of either of the others, readily found a medium of communication on all scientific subjects through Esperanto. One of these gentlemen assured the Leipsic geologist, Dr. Gredner, that he had acquired the new language in about three weeks' time.

Why should not the means that have already been adopted for the international communication of thought, such as the Morse telegraphic alphabet, the Arabic number signs, chemical formulæ, musical notes, the flag signals of the international code, be also extended to language? The principles that should control the preparation of such a tongue may be, in a measure, a matter still open to discussion; but even in this respect considerable progress has been made. Science has formally entered upon the investigation of this problem. When, in connection with the Paris Exposition of 1900, the International Congress of Philosophy met in the French capital, the difficulties of intercommunication between the different delegates were so obvious as to lead to the appointment of a standing commission on world-language. This commission recommended that an international committee of philologians be created to look into the whole matter. It also offered these suggestions:

1. The new language must serve the needs of daily life and business, as well as the requirements of science and learning.

2. It must be so simple that a person with an average elementary education in any European land can readily acquire it.

3. It must not be any of the living national tongues.

The efforts of this commission to arouse a general interest in the project have met with considerable success, and at least 150 different societies have been organized all over the world to advance the interests of the cause. At present France is in the lead in this agitation, and Paris is the headquarters, with Professor Couturat in charge.

The propaganda in behalf of the new language has its enemies as well as its friends, however. B. L. Wities, writing in the *Beilage* of the Munich *Allgemeine Zeitung* (the leading general scientific journal of Germany), declares:

"Such Utopian ideas as those of perpetual motion, the stone of the wise, the finding of Eldorado, have died under the influence of modern science. One delusion remains, that of a world-language prepared by scholars, and the prospects are that this dream, which has haunted mankind since the days of Leibnitz, will be more troublesome than ever in the near future. There are the best of reasons why all the endeavors in this direction have failed, and always will fail. One is that language develops in a manner that artificial rules can not guide or control, and the very relation of language to thought excludes the possibility of a world-tongue. Then, too, the practical importance or value of such a tongue is vastly overestimated; at best, it will be to language what stenography is to writing. It will be found an absolute impossibility to agree on the materials that should be used in the preparation of such a tongue and on the grammatical principles that should control its construction. Some of these optimistic world-language people seem to think that 90,000 international words will suffice for this new tongue. It is not possible to invent a language that could supply expressions for the whole world of modern thought with fewer words than are actually used by modern tongues, and it is hard to see how such a tongue could be made easier to learn than one or the other of the living languages. For both theoretical and practical reasons the world-language scheme will always end in a dismal failure."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

MR. CHURTON COLLINS ON THE POETRY OF AMERICA.

MR. CHURTON COLLINS has the reputation of being a somewhat severe critic. Not long ago he called Mr. Edmund Gosse to account for certain historical inaccuracies, and more recently still he set it on record that "no thoughtful man can contemplate the present condition of current literature without disgust and alarm." In consequence of these facts, the announcement that Mr. Collins was to deliver a series of lectures in London on "The Poetry and Poets of America" was greeted with some trepidation in this country. "We are conscious," as the New York *Evening Post* remarks, "of several vulnerable places in the poetry of our native land, and if we have acquired the habit of quoting in a certain spirit of retaliation that great saying of Sydney Smith's, 'Who ever reads an American book?'—nevertheless we still do it with some uneasiness of mind." It may be said at once, however, that Mr. Collins's addresses (as printed in three successive issues of *The North American Review*) entirely belie his reputation. They reveal him, in fact, as the most genial and generous of critics.

Mr. Collins declares at the very outset of his investigation that "the English people have not done justice to the poetry of America," and he attributes this underestimation of American poetry to three main causes. In the first place, he says, English critics have been inclined to regard American poetry very much as the Greek critics regarded Roman poetry; "for what was indigenous in it they had no taste, from what reminded them of their own artists they turned with contemptuous indifference." Secondly,

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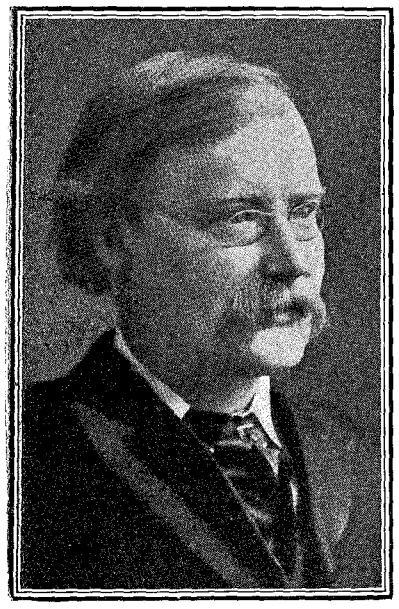
too much prominence has been given by American historians and critics to poetry that is essentially mediocre and inferior (Mr. Collins refers in this connection so Mr. Tyler's "Literary History of the American Revolution" and to Mr. Stedman's "American Anthology"). Thirdly, too much importance has been attached to merely "popular" verse, appealing to the multitude. We quote directly on this point:



MR. CHURTON COLLINS.

He declares that the distinguishing characteristics of American poetry are "its simplicity, its purity, its wholesomeness."

"Lowell's fame rests almost entirely on what is most broadly humorous in the 'Biglow Papers.' Holmes is associated with comical trifles like 'The One Horse Shay,' as Bret Harte is with 'Truthful James' and 'The Heathen Chinee.' Longfellow has been designated the 'Laureate of the Middle Classes,' and every one knows what that implies. Nor is this all. In many, and perhaps in many more than we suspect, the impression made by the aggressive eccentricities of Whitman and his school on the one hand, and the florid extravagance of the school of Joaquin Miller on the other, has so predominated over the impression made by the true masters of American song, that work as little representative of what is best in American poetry as it is of what is best in our own poetry has come to be regarded as essentially typical."

Proceeding to a consideration of the influences which shaped the earliest American poetry, Mr. Collins points out that the Puritan temper was in the highest degree unfavorable to the production of imaginative literature of any kind. The Puritan, as a rule, despised poetry. "Nothing more deplorable than the verses which have come down to us from the earliest colonists and from the ante-Revolutionary age could be conceived." And yet "to the influence of these silent forefathers American poetry owes its distinguishing notes; it has them in common with the characteristic poetry of Germany—its simplicity, its purity, its wholesomeness." The period which followed the establishment of the early colonies, and which included "perhaps the greatest single event in the history of mankind"—the American Revolution—was also one of literary barrenness. "As the men who make history seldom write it," says Mr. Collins, "so, when poetry is expressing itself in action, it has little need to express itself in words." Only one poet in this period had a touch of true genius, and he was of French extraction. Freneau's flowers are "somewhat wan and frail, it is true, but worth gathering." It was not until many years later that America found her "first poet of classical rank" in William Cullen Bryant.

Bryant's name proved to be but the first in a great revival which was destined to give America literary rank throughout the world. Emerson, who followed him, is set by Mr. Collins among the greatest American poets, "not by virtue of his poetry, but by virtue of his prose and by what in his verse is independent of the form of verse." Whittier, who came later still, is described as "the most purely native of American poets," but as one whose "average work is essentially commonplace." Of Edgar Allan Poe we read:

"If Whittier is the most purely native of American poets, Poe is the most purely alien. An anomaly absolutely unique, the poetry characteristic of him might have been produced in any country and at any time. As he was an American citizen, and the descendant of American citizens, tho his mother was an English woman, America has a right to claim him. And, need it be added, America has a right to be proud of him, but for reasons very different from those which make her proud of her other poets. Poe is to her literature what Keats, in an infinitely higher sense and measure, is to ours—an artist for art's sake, to whom little appealed but the beautiful, and whose poetry, at its best, is the expression of exclusive homage to it."

Passing on to "that eminent and gifted trio in whose work the transatlantic poetry of the last century may be said in many important respects to culminate"—Lowell, Longfellow, and Holmes—we find, says Mr. Collins, "a poetry academic, eclectic, occasional, having its models in many literatures, deriving its material and inspiration from what happened accidentally to appeal to the poet as an individual, either in his private or social life, or in his studies." Lowell is declared to be the first of American poets "in originality, in virility, in manysidedness," "rivaling Bryant as a painter of nature, and Holmes in pathos; having a touch, too, of Emerson's transcendentalism, and rising at times to all Whittier's moral fervor." His hortatory and didactic poetry, as it expresses itself in the Harvard Commemoration Ode, is "worthy, if not of the music and felicity of Milton and Wordsworth, at least of their tone, when that tone is most exalted," and "'The Biglow Papers' will live as long as 'Hudibras.'" Longfellow's reputation is treated as something almost sacred. Mr. Collins insists that "he was never trivial," and that "his style never lacks distinction." "'The Psalm of Life,'" we are assured, "is a noble poem, and all the mouthings of it in Infant Schools and in Young Men's Christian Associations, and all the strummings of 'middle-class' pianos will never make it other than noble. . . . Of 'Evangeline' it would be impertinent to say anything more than that it is the crown and flower of American idyll, a poem which stands, with our own Goldsmith's 'Deserted Village,' at the head of that poetry which a nation enshrines in its heart of hearts."

"As Froude beautifully says of the silvery cadences of our liturgy, that they 'chime like church-bells in the ear of the English child,' and haunt his memory with their music long after childhood has passed, so, like church-bells, have chimed for our children another music as silvery and as haunting—the music of this sweetest of poets. To how many a death-darkened household, to how many a life clouded with the cares or bending under the burdens which few escape, has his poetry brought balm and sunshine and encouragement. Such poetry as his is no more intended for critics than the Bible was intended for theologians, or the spring that gushes forth and refreshes the toil-worn traveler, to supply material for analytical chemistry."

With a brief reference to Bayard Taylor, "the most versatile of American men of letters"; to Sidney Lanier, "a man of rich and, fine genius, over which, however, he had no control and which seems to have intoxicated him"; to Joaquin Miller, whose "Songs of the Sierra" struck "a new and powerful note"; and to Bret Harte, whose distinction lies in "the nerve and grip of his narrative"—we proceed to quote Mr. Collins's estimate of Whitman:

"Whitman began by being in some respects a charlatan, and paid the penalty by becoming at last something very like a maniac. He had to pay also another penalty mortifying to his vanity, and, to do him justice, to a nobler instinct. He aspired to be the poet of the democracy, but the democracy would have nothing to do with him; and it was right, as it almost always is, in its judgment of what appeals to it. He has been compared to Blake, whom in some respects he nearly resembles; but, as Professor Nichol puts it, Blake was a prodigious genius marred by almost insane violence, Whitman a writer of almost insane violence occasionally redeemed by touches of genius."

In closing, Mr. Collins ventures a word of prophecy touching the future of American poetry. "It is more likely," he thinks, "to find its inspiration in the immense, emancipated, undeveloped life, with its infinite potentialities and possibilities, which is unfolding

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itself in the New World, than in the more contracted, tradition-trammeled life of the Old. Its themes, we may be sure, will be the themes in the treatment of which Whitman fumbled and stammered, its religion and ethics the religion and ethics of which Emerson was the prophet. In a word, it is likely to be a poetry the features of which have been more clearly, if still dimly, adumbrated in the genius typical of America than in the genius typical of any of the European nations."

THE CHANGING FASHIONS IN AMERICAN FICTION.

THE different phases through which the American novel has passed, during recent years, are vividly described in an article by Mr. Robert Bridges in *Collier's Weekly* (March 12). "It is a very big country," he observes, "and the appetite for fiction seems to be as big as the country. Millions of people must be fed with it, and the purveyors of fiction, like expert cooks, are put to it to invent new dishes. Some one concocts a new and toothsome appetizer, and straightway it becomes the fashion. Then all the minor pastry cooks roll up their sleeves and try to imitate it." We quote further:

"More than a decade ago the State novel became popular, and we had novels of Virginia, Louisiana, Georgia, Kansas, California—and so on through the States and Territories. Then the race element was introduced in dialect form, and negroes, creoles, Hoosiers, Yankees, Chinamen, Irishmen, Dagoes, and Greasers, all found themselves speaking strange and outlandish tongues in the pages of fiction.

"When the confusion of tongues grew oppressive, the great American business sense asserted itself, and men and women were revealed in fiction as affected by the 'idols of the market-place.' For a time the broker was the reigning hero—cool, resourceful, and impudent. Then the miner (coal, iron, and gold) furnished a melodramatic element which was sure to culminate in a strike. We had these novels with every variety of background, from the oil regions of Pennsylvania to the wild scenery of the Sierras. The crown and summit of this style in fiction was reached in the apotheosis of the multimillionaire—a strange, uncouth, but masterful figure who still survives, with all the shopworn properties, in the gossip of yellow journals. On a higher plane the professions found their interpreters—and there were novels of lawyers, doctors, clergymen, and gentleman burglars.

"The college man and woman resented the monopoly of the center of the stage by the 'old graduates,' and soon every college of importance had its own particular brand of story with the college colors on the cover, and the time-honored local traditions, heretofore told to freshmen by word of mouth, embodied in heroes and heroines clad in gorgeous contemporary raiment.

"When the present was exhausted, the past began to yield up its stores. The historical novel ran like wildfire through the studies of ambitious authors. . . . The critics could not say anything, because when they hurled historic accuracy at the author he or she replied with a new and outlandish country that never was on sea or land. The trick was too easy to learn, and that killed it."

Having exhausted all countries, races, and times, says Mr. Bridges, there was a lull during which American authors sought in vain for new fields of activity. Then Kipling made the animals talk, and straightway "animal books" became the fashion, and were turned out by the hundred. The writer concludes:

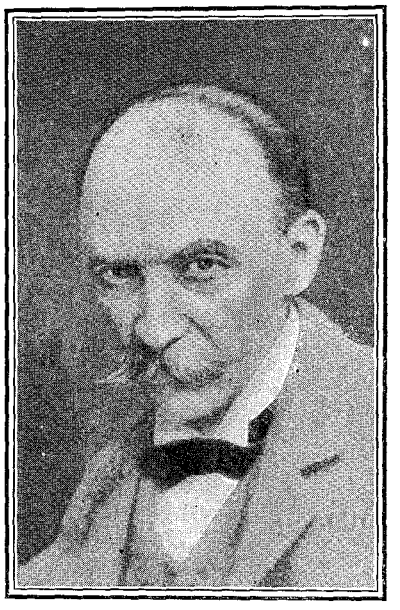
"The animal kingdom having ceased to be of supreme interest, the vegetable kingdom has succeeded it. We are now in the full swing and stir of the vegetable era of fiction. Wheat found its interpreter in Frank Norris, hemp in James Lane Allen, cabbage in Miss Hegan. Tobacco has just been exploited in Miss Glasgow's novel, 'The Deliverance.' It is related by direct descent with several other fashions in fiction; it is a Virginia novel, of the Reconstruction Era, of the Cavalier race, with a dash of negro and poor white. But these are all subsidiary to the tobacco motif—not plug or fine-cut, or Wheeling stogie, but growing tobacco in the field, before the hail has perforated it or frost has nipped it. . . . . .

"Hamlet of Denmark and Don Quixote of Spain ought to have been born in the Tobacco Belt."

A DEFENSE OF THE "UNPLAYABLE PLAY."

MR. THOMAS HARDY'S first contribution to dramatic literature, entitled "The Dynasts," and dealing with the Napoleonic wars, is accompanied by a preface in which he explains that the work "is intended simply for mental performance, and not for the stage." In the course of time, he thinks, the dramatic form may "reveal itself to be an eminently readable one." He adds: "Whether mental performance alone may not eventually be the fate of all drama, other than that of contemporary or frivolous life, is a kindred question not without interest." Elaborating this thought in a letter to the London *Times Literary Supplement* evoked by hostile criticism of his play, Mr. Hardy cites in his defense such "unactable play-like poems" as Shelley's "Prometheus Unbound" and Byron's "Cain," and goes on to say:

"If there is one thing needful to the vitality of any art, it is the freedom of the worker therein. . . . The artistic spirit is at bottom a spirit of caprice, and in some of its finest productions in the past it could have given no clear reason why they were run in this or that particular mold, and not in some more obvious one. And if it could be proved that in 'The Dynasts' nothing is gained, but much lost, by its form, that attempt would still have been legitimate. . . . This play-shape is essentially, if not quite literally, at one with the instinctive, primitive, narrative shape. In legends and old ballads, in the telling of 'an owre true tale' by country folks on winter nights over a dying fire, the place and time are briefly indicated at the beginning in almost all cases; and then the body of the story follows as what he said and what she said, the action being often suggested by the speeches alone. This likeness between the order of natural recital and the order of theatrical utility may be accidental—but there it is; and to write Scene so-and-so, Time so-and-so, instead of Once upon a time, At such a place, is a trifling variation that makes no difference to the mental images raised. . . . The methods of a book and the methods of a play, are fundamentally similar. It must be remembered that the printed story is not a representation, but, like the printed play, a means of producing a representation, which is done in the one case by sheer imaginativeness, in the other by imaginativeness pieced out with material helps. Why, then, should not a somewhat idealized semblance of the latter means be used in the former case?"



MR. THOMAS HARDY,

Whose new drama, "intended simply for mental performance," has aroused heated discussion in literary circles.

To this the dramatic critic of *The Times* (presumably Mr. A. B. Walkley) replies:

"Mr. Hardy boldly champions the cause of unplayable plays. We ask why, if you are writing a narrative to be read, forego all the privileges of narrative art and hamper yourself by the restrictions proper to a spectacle? Mr. Hardy answers, in effect, that is the artist's affair, he has a right to his caprice, and 'the artistic spirit is at bottom a spirit of caprice.' Well, caprices must be judged by their fruits; and criticism would fail in its duty if it did not point out that this particular 'caprice' of aiming by the

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medium of one art at the pleasure proper to another, a very popular caprice at the present day, is as noxious as it is popular. It has covered, for example, the Academy walls with 'anecdote' pictures, pictures which aim at a literary pleasure and not at the pleasure to be got out of paint. It has filled Mudie's library with novels of 'description,' which aim at a 'pictorial' pleasure instead of the pleasure of literature. It has filled our playhouses with 'adapted' novels, which aim at the pleasure of the novel instead of the pleasure of the play. It has filled our concert-halls with 'tone-poems' and 'program music,' aiming at the pleasure of thought instead of at the pleasure of sound. In short, this artistic 'caprice' is one of the direct artistic plagues of the time. . . . How is it possible to argue usefully with a disputant who believes that 'the methods of a book and the methods of a play are fundamentally similar,' who says that 'the play-shape is essentially, if not quite literally, at one with the instinctive, primitive, narrative shape,' and who supposes himself to have proved this last proposition by pointing out that just as in primitive narratives place and time are briefly indicated at the beginning, so they are in plays? Surely it is hardly necessary to remark that Mr. Hardy, when he is here talking of plays, is not really thinking of plays at all, but of play-books. It is quite true that 'to write Scene so-and-so, Time so-and-so, instead of Once upon a time, At such a place, is a trifling variation that makes no difference to the mental images raised.' But the acted playwright does not *write* Scene so-and-so, Time so-and-so, he actually presents them; and that makes all the difference."

Echoes of this controversy have reached the United States, and elicit some discussion. The New York *Times Saturday Review* comments:

"A perusal of the first part of 'The Dynasts' must satisfy the sophisticated reader that no attempt will ever be made toward its theatrical performance. That is the only point, we fancy, upon which the mind of the sophisticated reader of this fragment will ever be thoroughly satisfied concerning it. It is such a bewildering conglomeration of the real and the ideal, of the pageantry of war and the commonplace of peasant life; of verse possessing appreciable poetic charm and verse that is no better or much worse than so much prose; of the chattering and moaning of joyless, impotent, and undignified spirits; of the needless talk of humans, of tragedy spoiled by bathos, of comedy that fails to amuse; of humor and irony almost worthy of Swift, of measured moralizing quite worthy of Tupper, that the most receptive mind can make very little out of it."

"DECADENCE," A FRENCH ANTI-SEMITIC DRAMA.

PROHIBITED some three years ago by the French Government, "Décadence," a social play of anti-semitic tendencies, was assured of success in advance in the event of the removal of the ban. The expected has happened. Pacification of France seems to have proceeded far enough to suggest to the Government the safety of plays which deal with racial questions and raise animated literary controversies. If Captain Dreyfus can have a new hearing and a revision of his second sentence, there is apparently little danger in permitting the presentation of an artistic comedy of manners, picturing the new conditions of high life in France as affected by plutocracy and Jewish wealth and power.

The playwright, Albert Guinon, claims to have produced an artistically true, but not a realistic or photographic, picture. He declares in an interview in *Le Figaro* that he deliberately exaggerated in order to bring out the *essential* verity of things. In polite life, he says, certain facts and feelings are suppressed or controlled for the sake of a superficial harmony, but the facts, conditions, and feelings are there, and the artist who reveals them is truer to nature than he who merely copies appearances. All "polemical" intention is disclaimed by M. Guinon, which does not deter some critics from calling him the most conspicuous "controversial dramatist" of France.

The plot of the play, which was originally called "Les Deux Races" (The Two Races), is summarized as follows in *Le Figaro*:

The peculiar and very Parisian environment depicted is one in which the greatest names of France mingle and sometimes ally themselves with the most prominent representatives of Jewish finance. In the *salon* of the Duke de Barfleur and later in that of the Banker Strohmann the characters of the play meet, form connections, and exchange the most insulting and scathing remarks concerning their respective races, religions, societies, and temperaments.

The Duke of Barfleur, a fervent royalist and reckless spendthrift, has been reduced to practical bankruptcy. All his estates are heavily mortgaged, and by adroit manipulation alone has he succeeded in postponing the day of settlement. His indebtedness reaches 2,000,000 francs, and ruin seems to be inevitable.

The duke has two children, a son, Euquerrand, an amateur athlete and sportsman, and a daughter, Jeannine, a proud beauty, frivolous in most things, but sensitive to the honor of the family. This girl is loved by Nathan Strohmann, the son of Abraham Strohmann, financial magnate. Nathan himself is enormously wealthy, having made millions in the slave trade and on the bourse. He has several times asked Jeannine's hand in marriage, but has each time been scornfully rejected.

Meantime he has gathered all the duke's notes and mortgages and has become the latter's sole creditor. He is in a position to offer to the duke this alternative: either Jeannine's hand or a suit at law, which must disgrace the ancient house. Jeannine is consulted. She seeks the advice of her brother and of a young marquis, De Chérance, whom she loves and by whom she is loved. Both advise her to marry Nathan, and she resigns herself to the sacrifice.

In the second act Jeannine is Mme. Nathan Strohmann. In her salon we meet the old Strohmann, whom everybody despises and flatters at the same time, and his wife Rebecca, a militant and uncompromising Semite. We also meet there the gentility of Paris, and the representatives of the two races do not spare one another in their candid discussions. As the result of insults visited upon a friend of the Strohmanns, an old and obnoxious Jew, there is a rather warm verbal duel between Nathan and his wife. Incidentally the latter is charged with welcoming too freely the attentions of the marquis—a reproach which she resents with much dignity and indignation.

Subsequently, Nathan surprises Jeannine in a very intimate and affectionate conversation with the marquis. A violent scene follows, in which both unburden themselves and pour out their hatreds, disappointments, and bitter reproaches. Exasperated, Jeannine untruthfully declares to Nathan that she is De Chérance's mistress, and as he is about to strike her in rage and frenzy, she escapes and seeks the protection of the marquis.

In the last scene Nathan visits Jeannine, his wife, at the marquis's house. He is willing to forgive everything and begs her to return to him. At first she contemptuously and defiantly refuses, but little by little she yields to his inexorable logic. What will become of her? Poverty, disgrace, loss of her social position, misery, moral and material, will be her lot, should she remain with De Chérance. From this prospect she shrinks, and tho at heart she hates Nathan, she finally agrees to follow him. They are reunited, but not in spirit. The race antagonism is too deep and natural to be allayed by time or legal ties.

The critics differ in their estimates of the play. All recognize its dramatic and literary merit, but only the nationalist and anti-semite papers praise its social "thesis." Even the *Figaro* finds its characters too brutal and naked. There is little light and shade in it, it says. The Jews talk about their money and the nobles about their honor, it observes, and neither set seems to respect the usages and necessary hypocrisies of society. The *Figaro* critic adds:

"Nathan and Jeannine seem to us exceptional beings, and that is why M. Guinon is wrong in presenting them as types and in trying to unite in their persons the old aristocracy and modern Jewry. He is a writer of the most scrupulous probity, and it is certain that he intended to be, and was conscious of being, perfectly just to both groups. His error is the result of mistaking impartiality for justice. He is equally violent against the Strohmanns and the Barfleurs, but he is equally unjust to both sets."

The liberal papers are even more severe, but the public, it is admitted, has voted "Décadence" a successful play, and is crowding the theater at every performance.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

WHAT IS A CHEMICAL ELEMENT?

ACCORDING to recent views, stimulated by investigation of the newly discovered radioactive substances, what we call chemical elements are merely residues left after ages of disintegration similar to that which radium and similar bodies are now undergoing. This theory was suggested by the fact that the decomposition of these substances does not go on steadily, but proceeds by definite stages, producing, one after another, intermediary substances that persist for a longer or shorter time, some of them for a few seconds only, others for days, others for years. These temporary elements have been named "metabolons," and according to Messrs. Rutherford and Soddy, two of the most industrious English investigators, they differ from our chemical elements only in the fact of their shorter life. Says Mr. Soddy in a recent lecture reported in *Nature* (London, March 3):

"As the process of disintegration continues, certain stages are reached in which the substances produced are of the nature of chemical elements, tho differing from the ordinary conception of an element in that their existence is merely temporary. . . . Thorium, for example, gives off an emanation which changes its character in so short a time as 87 seconds; the form of matter to which radium owes its power of exciting radioactivity in other bodies endures for about 43 minutes; that to which thorium owes a similar property lasts about 16 hours; the radium emanation for 5 days and 8 hours; the uninvestigated next product of the disintegration of thorium, called thorium X, has a life of 5 days and 19 hours; uranium X of about 4 weeks; polonium of 16 months; radium of 1,300 years; uranium and thorium of about 1,000,000,000 years.

"The atoms of ordinary chemistry represent the forms with longest life, and they exist to-day because they have survived a process of evolution in which those physically unfit have disappeared. The transition-forms represent the elementary forms of matter unfitted to survive, but they are brought within our powers of knowledge because they constitute the temporary halting-places through which matter is passing in a scheme of slow continuous evolution from the heavier to the lighter forms. During the whole existence of the metabolon, whether long or short, it behaves like an ordinary atom. No indication whatever seems to be given of its approaching end, but suddenly, by some internal cataclysm, the cause of which is at present almost beyond conjecture, it flies to pieces and ceases to exist in the form previously assumed. A new world is thus opened out in which the atom is not the unit, in which the forces are not chemical, and in which common physical conceptions such as temperature are without meaning."

The separation of the transition-forms from the parent element by chemical means does not, we are told, affect the progress of disintegration. Left to itself, the parent element accumulates a fresh crop of the transition-forms, while the latter, after separation, disappear by further change. The products of disintegration must thus have been steadily accumulating through past ages, and the discovery of helium in 1895 was the first definite proof that such was really the case. Helium is only known in association with the radioactive elements, and its inertness is one of the reasons for supposing that it is a final product of disintegration. To quote further:

"Viewed in relation to their length of life, it seems probable that radium, actinium, and polonium are merely slow-changing transition-forms produced in the disintegration of the parent element uranium. Since the activity of polonium decays to half value in about a year, it follows that its existence in pitchblende at the present time is due to its continuous production in the mineral. Applying the same argument to radium, it must also be in a state of equilibrium, the amount produced in any given time being balanced by its rate of decay to inferior forms in that time. The lecturer had endeavored to discover whether a quantity of uranium, originally free from radium, would grow a crop of that element, but a lengthy period must elapse before a definite conclusion can be reached. There is also an unknown factor in these considerations—viz., actinium, and until this element has been further investigated even speculation must be withheld. Pushing the matter back to its limits, we are face to face with the question, How and when did the universe originate? According to orthodox notions, it is tending to a state of exhaustion in which all change must cease. If, however, a constructive influence is at work, opposing this process, the whole system may turn out to be a conservative one, limited with respect neither to the future nor to the past, but proceeding through continuous cycles of evolution. This would be possible if a gradual and continuous accretion of atomic mass could take place, such as that by which the stable elements were originally formed. At present, however, all such views belong to the realm of pure conjecture."

MORE ABOUT N-RAYS.

ADDITIONAL facts about the interesting form of radiation discovered by M. Blondlot continue to be brought out by investigation and reported in technical journals. That the rays are produced by sonorous bodies in vibration is shown by M. de Lepinay in a paper recently presented to the Paris Academy of Sciences. Says *The Scientific American* (March 12):

"The fact that compression or bending of a body causes it to emit *n*-rays (as M. Blondlot found) led the author to suppose that sound vibrations should produce the same effect, seeing that a sounding body undergoes alternating strains which, altho very slight, are, on the other hand, repeated many times per second. This was found to be true, using a phosphorescent screen to detect the rays. The bodies used were a tuning-fork, a bronze bell, and, especially, a large steel cylinder suspended by two cords and vibrating transversely from the blow of a hammer. The latter gave the best results. The phosphorescence increases on producing the vibrations, and diminishes progressively when the vibrations are suddenly stopped. It is found that the sonorous body is not the exclusive source of the *n*-rays, but also the air which surrounds it and transmits the vibrations. The air, in fact, undergoes alternate strains and forms a source of the rays. It is found that the action of the vibrating cylinder upon the phosphorescent screen still keeps up if a lead plate 0.1 inch thick or a screen of distilled water one inch thick is disposed so as to absorb all the *n*-rays coming from the vibrating body, without hindering the propagation of the vibrations to a point near the phosphorescent body. Still more striking are the experiments made with a siren as the source of sound, as in this case there are no metal parts engaged in the vibration, this being produced by the air alone. The action on the phosphorescent sulfid is clearly observed when it is placed a little above the revolving disk. Seeing that the *n*-rays have the property of increasing the brightness of a body which is feebly illuminated, an interesting experiment is the following: The revolving disk of the siren itself is used as the illuminated screen, and it receives a dim light from a window at a distance, so regulated that none of the details of the disk can be distinguished by the eye. The disk having been set in rotation beforehand, the experiment consists in passing the air through the siren and suppressing it again. Each time the air passes and the vibrations are produced, the disk appears with a stronger light, and at the same time the details are perceived, together with other parts of the siren. On stopping off the air, the whole goes back to obscurity. The effect is the same when the observer stops his ears, and it is not due to reflex action, as has been proved in different ways."

A new department of physiology seems likely to be opened up through the discovery that the *n*-rays appear to play an important rôle in regard to various manifestations of vital activity. Says *The Lancet* (London):

"Several scientific observers have been working at the relation of the *n*-rays to vision, and Blondlot has observed that the eye is itself a source of the rays and also that the sensitiveness of this organ to light is augmented under their influence. M. Augustin Charpentier has carried the investigation a step farther and has tried the effect of directing the rays upon the brain through the skull. Stimulation in this way, especially of the region of the angular gyrus, produces a sensation of luminosity. Changes in the pupils can also be brought about by introducing the region of the corpora quadrigemina into the path of the rays, or by acting

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upon the medulla through the agency of a source of the *n*-rays placed over the cervical spine. It is probable, therefore, that the *n*-rays which accompany ordinary light waves are in part responsible for the phenomena of vision."

A CURIOUS SUGGESTION OF SCIENTIFIC ILLUSION.

THAT a series of phenomena that have been recorded by numerous observers, widely commented on for their great importance to science, should be based on nothing more tangible than self-deception, or optical illusion, is somewhat startling. That even the suggestion of such a thing should be made is noteworthy. Precisely this suggestion is put forward by a scientific man of reputation regarding the so-called *n*-rays discovered in France by M. Blondlot and described several times in these columns. That those observers who have recorded the results of experiments with the *n*-rays may all have been self-deceived is the opinion of Herr O. Lummer, a German physicist. Altho the experiments of Blondlot have been repeated by some persons, others absolutely fail to get any results at all, and this fact has been noted with interest by students of the subject. Lummer, while not absolutely asserting that *n*-rays are non-existent, seems to have proved that the phenomena relied upon to show their existence may depend entirely on the eye of the observer. It is well known that in faint light objects may be seen by indirect or side-long vision, when they are invisible to direct vision. Now the *n*-rays, we are told, are recognized by their ability to increase the luminosity of any faintly shining surface. Lummer shows that the act of manipulating the screens, etc., used in the experiments, by causing the experimenter to turn aside, will cause an apparent increase of light on the test object, due to the effect noted above. He says, as quoted in *Nature* (London, February 18):

"It may be asserted briefly that neither brightening, darkening, nor change in color will take place if during the experiment . . . one gazes continuously at the analyzing luminous surface. . . . As a matter of fact, Professor Rubens, as he kindly informed me in answer to my question, took his observations in this way, and could perceive no brightening even when a very powerful Nernst lamp was employed. . . . . .

"Altho one can not imitate all M. Blondlot's experiments by purely subjective perceptual processes without employing some source of illumination, I have thought it advisable to direct attention to these more recent physiological discoveries, the more so as M. Blondlot pays no attention to them in any of his publications, and does not state with what visual apparatus one ought to observe, nor does he give warning of the illusions one may fall into in carrying out his experiments. But the foregoing statements will at least serve to remind all those who take the trouble to repeat M. Blondlot's experiments, that in vision in the dark changes in brightness, form, and color may arise from a purely subjective source. . . . . .

"As soon as the phenomenon observed by M. Blondlot shall have been incontestably proved by means of objective instruments of precision, these few remarks on the *n*-rays will be only of secondary importance."

Commenting on this, John Butler Burke, writing to the same number of *Nature* from the Cavendish Laboratory, says:

"I am at a loss to find any other explanation of M. Blondlot's results than that he has come across a radiation to which some men are blind and others not so.

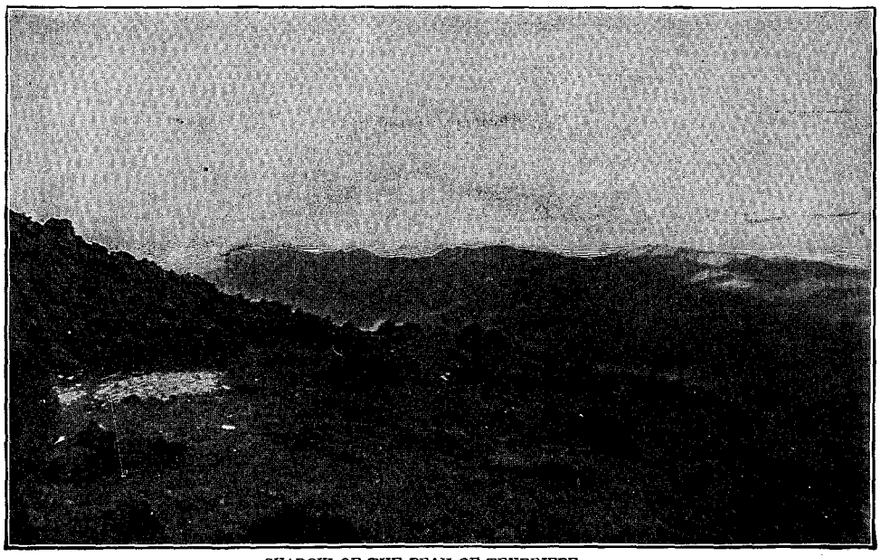
"Self-hypnotism, due to fatigue of the optic nerve, may account for results of one observer alone if he were to manipulate the lead screens and to make observations at the same time; but I think that M. Blondlot will have taken the precaution to get others to work the screens for him while he observed, and then compared results. . . . . .

"The fact that M. Blondlot has actually measured the wave-length of the *n*-rays leaves little doubt (in my mind) that what he has observed is, in the true sense, an objective and not a subjective effect; but at the same time the fact also that so many others who have tried in apparently the same way have failed, and failed deplorably, leaves still less doubt that the precise conditions upon which the effect depends yet remain to be discovered."

A MOUNTAIN'S SHADOW ON THE SKY.

HOW the shadow of the great peak of Teneriffe can be seen on the morning and evening sky at sunrise and sunset, and how simple observation of this shadow can be used as a basis for calculating the earth's diameter—using no instruments but an opera glass and a watch—is told in *Pearson's Magazine* (March) by T. C. Porter. Says Mr. Porter:

"We are at Alta Vista and its hospitable hut, 10,700 feet above sea-level. It is near sunset. The last 1,500 feet of the mighty Peak of Teneriffe rise behind us as we turn our faces eastward. Already the shadow of the mountain casts into shade the barren plain of the Canyadas, spread out at our feet, except on the right, where its rugged southern boundaries glow blood-red in the slanting rays; over these, and nearly thirty miles away, the highest peaks of the Anaga range, which form the extreme eastern point of the Island of Teneriffe, rise above a soft sea of evening clouds, and beyond the clouds stretches the ocean to the faint horizon line.



SHADOW OF THE PEAK OF TENERIFFE.

Photographed as the sun was sinking below the horizon.
Courtesy of *Pearson's Magazine*.

"Far over land and cloud and sea extends the shadow of the peak, a gigantic pyramid of coldest blue. Its apex presently rests on the distant horizon, and, as the sun sinks yet lower behind the mountain and ourselves, the shadow mounts the eastern sky, higher and higher yet, till it stands above the ocean like some vast specter peak.

"But soon there creeps silently up from behind the sea a second shadow, and this is in the shape of an arch of gentlest curve, cov-

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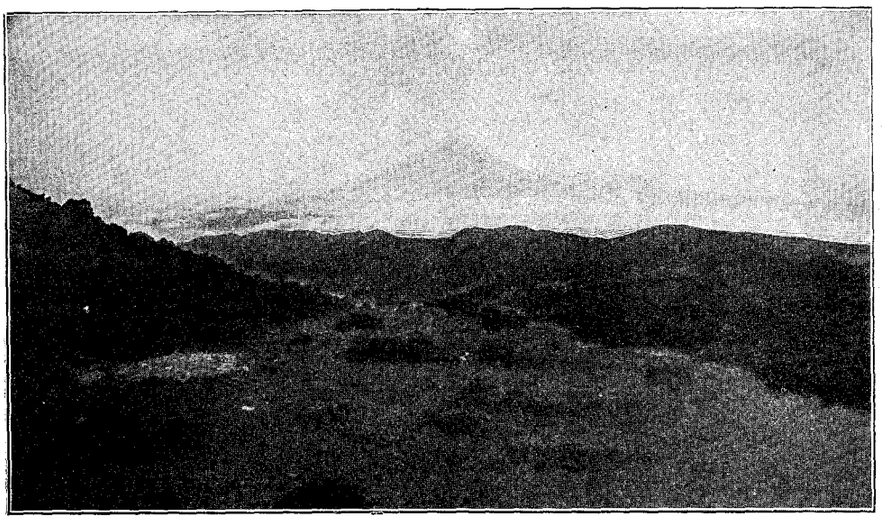
ering in one superb span the whole of the eastern horizon; as it rises, the base of the mountain shadow blends with it and is lost. Gradually the second shadow gains on the first, till at length only the topmost peak of the specter mountain shows above its rival, and presently it, too, is gone, lost in the rapidly climbing arch of night, which still advances, for it is the shadow of the sea horizon behind which the sun is sinking in the west—that is to say, it is part of the shadow of the earth itself, and it is curved, because the earth itself is curved. Such is the sight which may be witnessed any clear evening.

"In the morning the phenomena are similar, but they occur in reverse order. Standing on the highest point of the little crater's edge, looking toward the west just before sunrise, I saw the arch night climb *down* the sky. By and by its highest point lay but a few degrees off the sea horizon, and at the same moment, as the sunshine illuminated the top of the peak on which I stood, its shadow appeared above the retreating shadow of the earth, and was gradually more and more unveiled. At the same time its apex slowly sank, till in twenty minutes from the time when it first became visible it rested on the sea horizon, and then, as the sun rose higher and higher, the gigantic shadow of the peak grew shorter, and the apex could be seen traveling over the water, ever nearer to the Island of Teneriffe."



SHADOW OF THE PEAK.

Photographed six and a half minutes after the first picture.
Courtesy of *Pearson's Magazine*.

These phenomena, the writer shows, can be used to measure the earth's diameter. The time between the appearance of the peak's shadow on the horizon and the complete covering of it by the earth's shadow is just twenty minutes, or one-seventy-second of the time of the earth's entire revolution. As the height of the peak has been measured, the length of the arc through which the earth turns in this time may be calculated, and this, multiplied by seventy-two, gives the circumference, from which the diameter is easily obtained. To quote again:

"The calculation, as a matter of fact, is a good deal more difficult than would appear, for various circumstances which make the actual computation unfit for a rough and simple account like the present must be taken into account. But the answer turns out to be 7,718 miles—*i.e.*, correct to within one-thirty-ninth part of the diameter as measured by the most refined methods of modern geometers. It must be borne in mind, too, that the only apparatus used in this calculation is an ordinary watch and an opera-glass, tho it assumes as correctly known some distances and angles which have been measured with every possible care.

"But the method itself is an entirely new one, and I believe it to be capable of greater accuracy, if better means are used for determining the two moments on which it depends.

"On what is the shadow cast? What is it in the air that acts as the screen on which it is thrown? And the same question may be still more pertinently asked of the shadow of the earth, which rises into far higher regions of the atmosphere, for careful observation shows that the air reflects some light to the eye even at a height of more than one hundred and fifty miles.

"Now, in the Island of Teneriffe, under ordinary circumstances, there is no dust, in the common sense, above a height of nine thousand feet; yet, unless we suppose that the very particles of the air itself are able to reflect light, dust of some sort there must be—either solid or liquid particles."

ELECTRICITY IN JAPAN.

MUCH activity is being shown in Japan in the utilization of electricity for lighting, power, and traction purposes, according to *The Electrical Engineer* (London). Says this paper:

"The electric-light works at Tokyo are not a new installation. They have been in operation for some considerable time with a measure of success which may be gaged by the fact that it has become necessary to greatly extend the power-house. The plant at present installed has a capacity of 5,050 horse-power, and this is being increased by an additional 3,600 horse-power. Electric current is being supplied from the original plant to the equivalent of 100,273 10-candle-power lamps, and we understand that the demand for light is so heavy that applications for connections are received at the rate of over 1,500 a month. The new plant is expected to be in operation in April next, and immediately on its completion work will be commenced on a further extension, which will ultimately increase the output of the station by 10,000 horse-power. A part of this scheme is to be realized by the summer of next year. Fresh demands for electric power are being made upon the Electric Light Company by the Light Railway Company, which is operating an extensive system of light railways in the city. In other parts of Japan there is evidence of similar progress in which the municipalities are taking a prominent part. For instance, one city proposes to develop close on 10,000 horse-power by utilizing the power of the Tama River. This scheme provides for the harnessing of the water at three different places and the erection of an equal number of generating-stations. Other places are going in for electric-traction systems, such as Osaka, where the municipal authorities are seeking government authority to lay down electric tramways as a municipal undertaking.

"Another instance of activity in the same direction is the completion of the Keihin electric railway, which is under construction. It runs between Shinagawa and Kanagawa, a distance of about twenty miles. The company is laying down a power-plant with a capacity of 540 horse-power, which will supply current for working the line, and an average speed of fifty miles an hour is to be maintained. It is likely to prove a formidable rival to the government railway between Yokohama and Shimbashi, as it will have the advantage of a more frequent and rapid service."

IS HEREDITY A FORM OF MEMORY?

AN interesting theory of heredity, propounded years ago by Prof. Ewald Hering, of Leipsic, is recalled by a correspondent of *Nature* (London), who finds in it "the germ of a theory which simplifies everything" pertaining to the subject. According to this view, heredity is inseparable, as a function of organized matter, from memory. Says the writer:

"Memory is the faculty of reproducing old ideas or sensations. Often it is a conscious act, and we call up a memory voluntarily; but sometimes these memories come spontaneously, even when we do not wish for them. To account for this we must assume that the original idea or sensation made some material alteration in the substance of the brain, vestiges of which remain, and the nervous

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substance is enabled to reproduce the idea at will. These material vestiges are not permanent, but fade away unless they are strengthened by repetition, altho by constant effort we can recall memories with great precision.

"However, conscious memories, whether voluntary or not, form but a small part of our life. They emerge but occasionally from the mass of unconscious memories, or habits, by means of which we carry on all the daily operations of eating, moving, talking, etc. In all these cases it is the unconscious memory which tells us what to do and guides our actions. Habitual performance of an action makes it easy, and after constant repetition it becomes unconscious or automatic. This would not be possible if the nervous system was unable to remember and reproduce former states of irritation, and when habits are transmitted from one generation to another they are transformed into instincts."

Memory, however, is not always conscious; it may even exist where there is no nervous tissue. Reflex action, or automatic memory, is found in the minutest Protozoa. Even plants have instincts, as when the ivy grows toward the shade and the clematis toward the light. To quote further:

"Now we can not draw a line between instinctive action and heredity. When a corpuscle of protoplasm divides, if the two halves separate, we call it an instinctive or automatic action; if they remain together, it is heredity. When a gnat bursts its larval skin and flies away, the flying may be called a voluntary action; the bursting of the skin is involuntary and instinctive; but so also is the formation of the skin.

"But how can habits or structural variations be transmitted from one generation to the next? Professor Hering gives the following explanation: The nervous system, he says, is a coherent unity, probably connected with every cell. Any irritation effected in one part is repeated by the others, and these repetitions would probably be stronger in the reproductive cells than elsewhere. The reappearance of the parent in the full-grown offspring can only be due to the reproduction of such experiences as the germ had previously taken part in while still in the reproductive organs. The offspring remembers these experiences so soon as the same or a similar irritation is offered. If the germ-cells of the parent organism are affected, however feebly, by the habits of the body, then the offspring, as it grows, will reproduce the experiences it underwent as a smaller part of the body. Therefore it accurately repeats what its ancestors have repeated through innumerable generations. When the first germ divided it bequeathed its properties to its descendants, the immediate descendants added new properties, and every new germ reproduced to a great extent the *modi operandi* of its ancestors. Each generation endows its germ with some small property which has been acquired during life, and this is added to the total legacy of the race. Thus every living being of the present day is the product of the unconscious memory of organized matter."

GUMS: WHAT THEY ARE AND HOW THEY GROW.

THE gums that exude from certain tropical trees and shrubs play a great part in commerce and the arts. Their kinds, production, uses, and the office that they fill in the economy of the plant are discussed in the *Revue Scientifique* (February 27) by M. Henri Coupin in an article on "Gum Plants," from which we translate the following paragraphs:

"A great number of plants have the property of exuding from their stems a gluey substance that hardens on exposure and swells when moistened. These are the gum-plants that are so widely utilized in the industries and that are such a source of wealth to the tropical countries, where they grow almost exclusively. The species are numerous and, unfortunately, little known, so that they are not exploited as they should be. . . . . .

"These gums . . . are the despair of the botanists, who have never made up their minds whether the production is normal or diseased, nor what the object of it is. We know that our fruit-trees, when wounded, secrete masses of brown gum, which children love to chew, altho its flavor is somewhat bitter. In this case the cause of the production is clear; it is due to the injury and probably aids in healing it. In other cases the formation of the gum is plainly related to the presence of a bacterium or of a fungus. But these are exceptional facts. Most of the plants or trees that produce gum do it normally, just as M. Jourdain talked prose, without knowing it. As to the use they make of it, we have not the slightest idea. One interesting fact that has been noted is that the gum is produced entirely during the rainy season; it is, therefore, perhaps a protection against excessive moisture. But this explanation, which is given by several botanists, seems to be in the category of those that consist merely of words.

"However this may be, a gum may be recognized from all other vegetable products by two simple characteristics. First, it is insoluble in alcohol and ether, which distinguishes it from the resins. Next, it dissolves in water, giving a thick, stringy liquid. From this latter point of view two cases may be considered. Certain gums, such as gum arabic, swell somewhat in water, and are entirely dissolved in it; these are the true gums. Others, such as gum tragacanth, swell greatly in water, but do not dissolve; these are the pseudo-gums. Others still contain a certain quantity of tannin; these are the tanniferous gums. . . . . .

"Gum generally exudes spontaneously from the trees, but the production may be sensibly increased by making longitudinal cuts in the bark. These need to be deep, for it is well known that the gum forms almost always on the inner surface of the bark next to the wood."

The best gums, we are told, come from the different acacias of arid regions, the best being the *Acacia Arabica*, a shrub six to eighteen feet high, which grows in India both wild and cultivated. Gum from the Senegal acacia, which grows in various parts of Africa, has lately increased in commercial importance. Among other gum-producing species are the wild-apple tree of India, whose gum is very similar to gum arabic, the algarobia of California, and the different kinds of astralagus. These last grow in Persia and yield gum tragacanth, which is an abnormal or diseased product. Says M. Coupin:

"An interesting experiment can be made with gum tragacanth. If a few bits of it be placed in a glass of water, this may be inverted, several hours later, without spilling its contents. The very thick whitish mucilage that it yields is used variously. Druggists use it to thicken medicines . . . and confectioners to make jellies and creams. Finally it serves to finish leather, cloth, and paper, and enters into the composition of water-colors."

When placed in water in proper proportions (one to ten by weight), the pieces of gum begin to jellify on the surface, and the change proceeds slowly toward the center, the gum keeping its form and size until this has gone on for several hours, when the mass rapidly turns to a thick, whitish, opaque mucilage. Other kinds of tragacanth, such as the M'Bep gum and the gum of Bassora, act differently. The bits jellify rapidly and swell greatly, yielding a clear colorless mucilage. The taurin gums appear to be the least interesting of the kinds described by the writer—perhaps because they have been less studied than the others. They are not much used, for they are of unstable composition, but they may serve as astringents in medicine.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

"SMOKELESS powder has its dangers as well as advantages," says *Popular Mechanics*. "While it does not reveal the location of the guns from which it is fired, and does not obstruct the vision of its gunners, it does emit a most deadly gas, which, if confined, works havoc. When used in the open field or battlements there is usually enough wind blowing to carry away the fumes, but when fired from turrets on board ship the gases are liable to be blown back into the compartment. In recent target practise by a battle-ship the wind blew the fumes into the turret and nearly asphyxiated the entire gun crew."

"A CHUNK of coal releases, during combustion," says *The Electrical World and Engineer*, "enough energy to lift itself about two thousand miles, or say from New York to Panama, vertically upward against constant sea-level gravitation. A chunk of hydrogen, our most energetic combustible, releases in combustion an amount of energy capable of lifting itself about four times as far, or to a vertical distance (against sea-level gravitation) roughly equal to the distance from New York to Manila. But a chunk of radium emanation . . . yields without any combustion an amount of energy in the process of its evolution that would lift it against sea-level gravitation not only to the sun, but to the orbit of the planet Neptune, the outside fence-post of the solar system, and which is about thirty times farther from the sun than the earth is."

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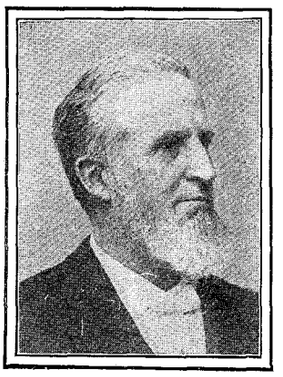
THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

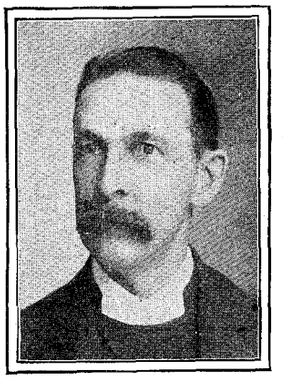
ARE THE SCRIPTURES A REVELATION OR AN EVOLUTION?

BACK of the thousand and one detail problems that complicate the Biblical research of the day is found firmly entrenched the fundamental question of the character of the Scriptures and of their contents. Upon this central problem of modern religious controversy some new light has recently been shed by Prof. H. H. Kuyper, of the Free University of Amsterdam. Professor Kuyper is the son of Dr. Abraham Kuyper, the Dutch prime minister. At the time of the fathers resignation as *Rector Magnificus* of the university, the son delivered an address which has since been issued in pamphlet form under the title "Evolutie of Revelatie" (Evolution or Revelation). His argument may be summarized as follows:

There can be no doubt that in the controversies that are now raging in the domain of Biblical investigation the question at stake is that of the revelation of the Scriptures. In modern Babylonian research, especially as interpreted by Delitzsch and others, claims are made that the contents of the Scriptures, even those parts which all along have been considered to be the necessary product of revelation, can readily be explained as a natural adaptation of ideas and teachings found in Babylonian literature. The "Babylonian" theory has become, instead of a help-meet, a foe to the claim of inspiration put forth by the Scriptures themselves. All the contributions of facts and data which the archeologist's pick and spade have so bountifully been providing in recent decades are most welcome to the Bible student. But these new materials have been used to attack the inspired or revealed character of the Scriptures; they have, in a hasty and unscientific way, been abused and misinterpreted in the interests of a naturalistic philosophy and history. A more careful comparison of the contents of the cuneiform literature and of the Book of Genesis shows that, notwithstanding a seeming agreement in these accounts in externals and in certain facts, there is a vast disagreement in the real genius and character of the stories. The Babylonian accounts of the work of Creation and of the Deluge are saturated with polytheistic and heathen notions about the gods, and their relations to the world and to mankind, which stand out in bold contrast to the lofty conception of God embodied in "Genesis." This very fact shows that "Genesis" is the older and the more original report, altho it may not have been set down in written form until after the corrupt Babylonian account had been impressed on the tablets of Babylon. There are no reasons for making any material concessions to the radical criticisms of the day. The claim that at bottom the religious contents of the Old Testament are only the natural product of man's religious genius can not be supported, and those mediating theologians who endeavor to repudiate such fundamental doctrines as that of man's fall make undue concessions to the clamor of naturalistic philosophy. Recent results of investigations only confirm the Bible claims of the original monotheism of the Semitic peoples, and even if it should prove true, as Delitzsch claims, that the name "Jehovah" is already found in the cuneiform literature, that would only emphasize the primitive purity of the Semitic religion. At any rate, actual facts fairly interpreted do not prove an evolutionary process in the development of early religion, but rather the opposite, a degradation from something originally good to something worse. An examination of Babylonian etymology relating o the idea of God shows the high character of the older type of religious thought in this respect. A comparison of the recently discovered codex of Hammurabi with the Pentateuch demonstrates the original character of the Mosaic legislation, on account of its higher character and greater religious depth. Even the chronology of the Old Testament does not deserve the slighting criticism accorded by the critics.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.



BISHOP CYRUS D. FOSS,
Of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



CHARLES CUTHBERT HALL, D.D.,
The newly elected President of the Association.

PROF. FRANCIS G. PEABODY,
Of Harvard University.

PROMINENT PARTICIPANTS IN THE CONVENTION OF THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION.

THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION.

THE second annual convention of the Religious Education Association, held in Philadelphia, March 2-4, was attended by four hundred delegates from all parts of the country. "Seldom, if ever," says the Boston *Congregationalist*, "has a more representative assembly been gathered of presidents and professors of universities, colleges, and theological seminaries, and administrators of public education." The general theme of the convention was "The Bible in Practical Life," and among those who discussed this subject were President W. H. P. Faunce, of Brown University, Bishop Cyrus D. Foss, of the Methodist Church, Bishop Alexander Mackay-Smith, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Prof. Francis G. Peabody, of Harvard University, Prof. Richard G. Moulton, of Chicago University, and Rabbi Abram Simon, of the Washington Hebrew Congregation. One of the most remarkable features of the gathering was the number of creeds represented. The Philadelphia *Press*, commenting on the opening session, declared: "The moderator of the Congregational National Council presided. A Methodist Episcopal bishop offered prayer. A Quaker college president read the Scriptures. A Protestant Episcopal bishop made the most tender and human address of the evening. A Presbyterian theological professor shared the audience's favor with a Baptist pastor, while a Lutheran university professor made the address of welcome."

The aim of the Religious Education Association, as defined by its new president, Dr. Charles Cuthbert Hall, of New York, is to bring into helpful cooperation the organizations and forces now at work in the field of religious and moral education. That its efforts in this direction have met with a large degree of success is already evident. "It is clear," remarks the New York *Outlook*, "that the Religious Education Association has come to stay." The Chicago *Standard* (Baptist) says:

"The association has been on trial for a year. Many of us have watched its course with solicitous interest. The late convention which brought to its platform over one hundred speakers and to its sessions about four hundred registered attendants, was in a sense the verdict of the Christian people of the land that the association may be trusted. At the beginning, many conservative men looked askance. Some doubted, others sneered, a few outwardly opposed. It must be confessed that public opinion is now turning

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unmistakably toward the association, finding in its propaganda no cause for serious complaint; even the deliverances of its speakers, responsible only to themselves, discovered almost nothing to condemn. Those who at first hesitated have become members, and nothing could be more cordial than the commendation of such men as John Wanamaker, Dr. C. R. Blackall, President Charles Cuthbert Hall, and Dr. Russell H. Conwell.

"The convention, save for an occasional remark which one could not altogether approve, . . . was evangelical, almost evangelistic. We could discover no evidences of the havoc of a destructive criticism of the Bible, nor want of faith in the Book, nor lack of stimulation of motive in often-quoted Scripture precepts. On the other hand, while there was evidence of the modern position of many speakers, there was observable a reverence for the Bible as a divine message, as an example for Christian living, as the basis of the highest civilization, as literature of superb beauty and purity. Never in our day, probably, has there been a Christian gathering in which higher tributes have been paid to the Bible by so many men and women of distinguished attainments in education and religion."

No movement in recent years, adds *The American Friend* (Philadelphia), in the same vein, "has been more full of promise." *The Episcopal Recorder* (Philadelphia) comments:

"The convention impressed us hopefully in four particulars. It was an expression of the recognition, on the part of the best thought of our country, of the fact that the youth of the land in all grades of society, from the university student to the child in the kindergarten of the public school, needs and is entitled to the best religious instruction possible, given in the way best suited to its station and degree of development. To us it is a hopeful sign when the educators of the land range themselves on the side of the religious education of the children. This is one of the burning questions that must be answered, and that speedily, as to how to give religious instruction to the youth of the land.

"A second hopeful sign was furnished in the convention's reiteration that in the giving of such instruction as that to which we have already referred, the 'Bible must have a permanent and unique place.' This testimony, coming at this time, when the thought of the English-speaking world is turned toward the great Bible societies, is particularly timely, and when made by the Religious Education Association, which has been viewed with some suspicion, is more than gratifying.

"The convention made very clear its position on the responsibility of the family for the character-building of its members. In these days, when the old-fashioned family life is discounted by many and the reaping of its full benefits defeated by the exigencies of hotel and tenement life, no utterance can be too strong which calls us to return to the simpler ways of our fathers and cultivate a true family life, which, when all is said and done, must ever remain the most important institution for the development of character.

"We are glad also to notice that the opinion of the convention was that nothing could supersede the influence of high consecrated personality in the training of the young. To have this fact affirmed by such a gathering is worthy of note. Amid the clamor for new methods and more thorough equipment, now in this direction and now in that, this high qualification of consecrated personality is apt to be minimized, if not overlooked. By no means let a stone remained unturned to secure thorough equipment in every way; but nothing can take the place of the living fire."

The Philadelphia *Presbyterian* is much more critical in its attitude:

"It can not be expected that a convention of so ambitious and conglomerate a character should possess a dominating unity and agreement. All that can be looked for is a generalizing sort of expression and activity. Liberalism and conservatism can not work in practical harmony and in effective accord. There will be conflict of opinion and action. . . . . .

"A broad and comprehensive scheme for controlling, influencing, and utilizing every form of instruction and activity is to be put into operation as conditions warrant, and the enthusiastic in the movement expect wonderful results to follow. Whether the ambitious project will finally die of its own weight, or whether it will prove self-defeating by virtue of its diverse elements, or whether it will receive such modifications and assume such relations as to become a realizing organism along practical and effective lines, the future alone will determine.

"For our part we have seen nothing in its imposing program, in its advertising methods, in its enunciation of principles, and in its latest efforts to form a favorable impression upon and to get hold of the more conservative minds of the East, to make us change our opinion of it as being principally under the dominance of the liberal thought and sentiment of the hour and as lacking in a distinctive evangelicalism. The central spirit, life, and energy of it are to be found in the University of Chicago."

BUSHIDO, THE JAPANESE ETHICAL CODE.

JAPAN is a country of religious confusion, and within its borders Buddhism, Confucianism, Shintoism, and Christianity all struggle for supremacy. It possesses, however, a bond of moral unity in *Bushido*, the knightly code of Japanese chivalry, which has existed for hundreds of years. "*Bushido* is the 'Soul of Japan,'" says Mr. Alfred Stead, a writer in *The Monthly Review* (London, March), "productive of and animating all the forms and expressions of Japanese religions. Whatever be the diversity of sect, a common meeting-ground is found in *Bushido*, since it is simply the fundamental vitality, untrammeled by dogma, from which all the moral part of religion, as distinct from the belief in the divine, has sprung." The same writer goes on to cite the following description of *Bushido* from the pen of Prof. Inazo Nitobe, a well-known Japanese scholar:

"*Bushido* is the code of moral principles which the knights were required or instructed to observe. It is not a written code; at best it consists of a few maxims handed down from mouth to mouth or coming from the pen of some well-known warrior or savant. More frequently it is a code unwritten and unuttered, possessing all the more the powerful sanction of veritable deed, and of a law written on the fleshly tablets of the heart. It was founded, not on the creation of one brain, however able, nor on the life of a single personage, however renowned. It was an organic growth of decades and centuries of military career. It, perhaps, fills the same position in the history of ethics that the English constitution does in political history; yet it has had nothing to compare with the Magna Charta or the Habeas Corpus act. True, early in the seventeenth century military statutes (*Buke Hatto*) were promulgated; but their thirteen short articles were taken up mostly with marriages, castles, leagues, etc., and didactic regulations were but meagerly touched upon. We can not, therefore, point out any definite time and place and say, 'Here is its fountain-head.' Only as it attains consciousness in the feudal age, its origin in respect to time, it may be identified with feudalism. But feudalism itself is woven of many threads, and *Bushido* shares its intimate nature."

The essential principles enunciated by *Bushido* are few and simple. Foremost on the list is rectitude, or justice, which is ranked as the highest of all virtues. Filial piety and duty are mentioned next. Thirdly we come to courage, and, after courage, to benevolence and piety. *Bushi no nasake*—the tenderness of a warrior—has always been considered superior to ordinary tenderness or mercy, since it implies mercy with a due regard for justice also. Politeness and respect for the feelings of others are insisted upon by all the followers of *Bushido*, as are also truthfulness, magnanimity, and patience. To this catalogue of the virtues must be added one more:

"*Bushido* had one point in its teaching for which no sacrifice was held too dear, no life too precious: this was the duty of loyalty, which was as the keystone of the arch of feudal virtues. The feudal system has passed away from Japan as it has from England, and yet there is no less reverence to the duty of loyalty in Japan to-day than long ago. As *Bushido* holds that the interests of the family and of its members are one and the same, so it should be with the entire nation. There should be no interests separately for the subjects, or the rulers; all should work for the whole, and merge his or her personal interest in the interests of the whole

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nation. Thus has *Bushido* made of the Japanese the most patriotic race in the world."

Doubtless "there are flaws to be found in *Bushido*," says Mr. Stead, in conclusion, "since nothing is perfect"; but "the great strength that it has to the thinking mind is that it gets beneath the various creeds and dogmas to the fundamental truths necessary to the building up of fine characters." Is it not reasonable to suggest, he adds, that "the nations of the world may look with more equanimity upon the present struggle, knowing that since one at least of the combatants has been reared in an atmosphere charged with the moral ideas of *Bushido*, the horrors of war will wherever possible be mitigated? Is such a nation so likely to abuse the power she possesses as another nation without the same privileges might be?"

MORMONISM UNDER THE SEARCH-LIGHT.

THE testimony elicited by the Senatorial committee which is at present investigating the charges against Senator-elect Smoot, of Utah, is greeted with scathing comment in a majority of the religious papers. *Zion's Herald* (Boston, Meth. Episc.) characterizes the Mormon president's frank avowal of polygamous practises as "an astonishing exhibition of effrontery"; and *The United Presbyterian* (Pittsburg) says: "If any evidence were needed to show up the rottenness and duplicity of the Mormon Church and its leaders, it is furnished by the Smoot investigation." *The Evangelical Messenger* (Cleveland) declares:

"Salt Lake City is a hotbed of iniquity, a stronghold of anarchy, a breeding-place of sedition. It is incompatible with decent, democratic, twentieth-century government. And Reed Smoot represents this whole system. He is in the Senate to represent it. We wonder whether Senators are willing to be fellow members with the representative of such an institution. We wonder whether a man who stands for an organization whose head openly confesses that for fourteen years he and his associates have openly and deliberately violated the law of the land as to polygamous marriages, and that in the eyes of the law he and they are adulterers, can be recognized as a lawmaker in the United States. We do not yet know at this writing whether Mr. Smoot is similarly guilty or not, but it makes little difference. He is in the Senate by the consent and to carry out the wishes of the Mormon hierarchy. That seems to be already proven. We trust he will be dealt with as the thing he represents deserves to be dealt with."

Discussing the issues of the case in calmer language, *The Christian Work and Evangelist* (New York) says:

"The status of the matter at the present time seems to be this: Smoot can not be refused a seat simply because he is a Mormon, as it is no more a crime to be a Mormon than a Mohammedan or Buddhist. He can not be disqualified on the ground of polygamy, as he has but one wife. But two causes exist, either one of which may serve to disqualify him for a seat in the Senate. The first is that he belongs to a church which assumes to represent a State whose statehood was secured through false pretense and fraud, and whose theocracy itself takes precedence of any oath to support the Constitution and laws passed in pursuance thereof. Or, it may be shown that as one of the twelve apostles he has acquiesced in the direct, continued violation of law by many of the apostles who are leading polygamous lives. Whatever be the result—which it pertains solely to the Senate to determine—the investigation, even if it should go no farther, should cause the prosecution of leading Mormons for constant violation of the law. In any event, the case bids fair to establish a precedent which will determine the status of Mormons with reference to their election to either house of Congress in the future."

Senator Smoot "should be sent back to Utah," says the Chicago *Advance* (Congregationalist). "He has already been shown to be an accessory to the violation of law," adds the Boston *Watchman* (Baptist), and "it will be impossible to convince people of ordinary moral sense that such a man is fit for membership in a body which is a part of the law-making and governing power of the United States." *The Christian Herald* (New York, undenom.) comments:

"President Smith's admissions . . . all lead to the inevitable conclusion that a Mormon Congressman, whether Senator or Representative, will represent not his State, but his church in the national legislature, and will act and vote as his church directs.

"Herein, it seems to us, is the very heart and essence of the case against Senator Smoot. If he represents the Mormon Church in Congress as its oath-bound apostle, instead of being the representative of the people of Utah, he has not the slightest color of a claim to a seat in the Senate. Wholly apart from the question whether he is a polygamist or not, this is the point for the Senate to decide."

The New York *Churchman* (Prot. Episc.) makes the Senatorial investigation the text for a homily on the "consecutive polygamy" resulting from our divorce laws; and Roman Catholic papers in most cases pursue the same line of argument. What is needed, says the Pittsburg *Observer* (Rom. Cath.), is a constitutional amendment which would "put an end to divorce" in every State of the Union. *The Western World* (Des Moines, Rom. Cath.) says:

"It is right indeed and imperative that Smoot be unseated in the Senate if the charges against him are found to be true, but it must be remembered that Smith supports all of his wives and all of the children of his wives. We have in mind men in this country who have, not five wives, but two, at least. They have children by both wives, they support but one wife, deny fatherhood to one 'class' of the family, and if they went to the Senate they would not be unseated nor would their citizenship be questioned. They practise polygamy by the divorce system of marriage."

The New York *Independent* is one of the few religious journals which take the view that Mr. Smoot can not and ought not to be excluded from the Senate. It says:

"We have had another week of the investigation of the Mormon Church, but nothing has come out which changes our opinion that Mr. Smoot can not be excluded from his seat in the Senate. That is proved, which everybody knew, that quite a number of the older men, including half of the twelve apostles, continue to live in polygamous relations, and that it is not the policy of the State of Utah to disturb those who do so, so long as there are no new polygamous marriages. It is also proved that apostles must either get special permission from their associates to accept political office or must resign their apostleship. But we do not see that this is a reason for excluding Mr. Smoot. Mr. Depew was required to resign the presidency of the New York Central Railroad when he became United States Senator."

CHRISTIANITY AND THE PROBLEMS OF TO-DAY.

CHRISTIANITY is summoned to a new realization of its responsibility for the solution of twentieth-century problems by Mr. D. S. Cairns, an English writer, who states his views in two recent issues of *The Contemporary Review* (London), and who thinks that the church is about to enter upon an "era greater than any in its memorable past." The three most important problems of our day, he affirms, are those bound up (1) in the relations of the higher to the lower races; (2) in the social relations of men; and (3) in the international relations of Christendom. Does the church understand the importance of the moral issues involved, he asks? Have her thinkers and teachers and organizers faced these problems with an adequate sense of their significance—"their incomparably greater moment than many of the questions which consume so much of their time and attention at the present day"?

Taking up, first of all, the problems presented by what is loosely termed the "imperialistic policy" of modern nations, Mr. Cairns declares that "nothing can be more certain than that the enslavement or exploitation of weaker races finds its inevitable nemesis

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in the deterioration of the oppressor." The Christian church, he maintains, can not remain neutral in so vital an issue.

"If we are to be in earnest with the Kingdom of God, we must insist that the whole policy of the Christian state toward the lower races shall be in harmony with the Christian ideal. The church does not want the aid of the state in her specific work of the evangelizing of the lower peoples; she is incomparably better without it. But she has the right and the duty to insist that the state shall not abuse its power over these peoples at the dictation of private greed or national vanity. She is committed to war to the death against all attempts, for example, to bring back slavery on any pretenses, or to tolerate the exploitation of the weaker peoples by the strong. She must use all her resources to insist that the higher nations shall govern the lower only in the interests of the common good. The signs are many and sinister that a stern and prolonged conflict is here advancing upon her which may well take rank with the great fights of history, the fights of the soul, of which wars are but incidents, and which are dated not by years, but by centuries. It is only by the Christian church facing the situation in all its breadth and intricacy, and realizing it in all its gravity, that its dangers can be transcended and the victory won."

Approaching the social problems of our day in a similar spirit, Mr. Cairns maintains that the only hope of permanent social benefit lies in "the intervention of some power strong enough to transform private interest by taking it up into the idea of the common good." The socialist ideal is right, he thinks, and a co-operative order will ultimately supersede the present competitive system; but "the cardinal difficulty which lies in the way of the co-operative commonwealth is that the individuals of whom it would be composed are not moralized up to the point at which it would be a workable order of society." We quote further:

"If there is, then, to be any deliverance from the present social *impasse*, history justifies us in believing that that deliverance will come from religion. A distinguished modern writer, Prof. Alfred Marshall, has put in the forefront of his well-known work on the 'Principles of Economics' the statement that 'the two great forming agencies of the world's history have been the religious and the economic. Here and there the ardor of the military or the artistic spirit has been for a while predominant, but religious and economic influences have nowhere been displaced from the front rank even for a time; and they have nearly always been more important than all others put together.' It would seem to follow from this that the cardinal problem of civilization is to get these factors into right relations with each other. This in truth is the real problem of our age, the problem which underlies all others. The student of the present economic situation who has reached the conclusion above indicated, that the root cause of the evils and dangers of society to-day lies in the materialism and egotism of the individual, and that the one hope for a better order lies in the deepening and diffusion of the idea of the common good, and who raises the further inquiry as to how this spiritualizing of ideals can be attained, is, therefore, driven to the conclusion that the one great hope for society lies in that power which has been the mother of all great civilizations, the power which lays its stern and ennobling restraints upon the private and class antagonisms which would otherwise shatter society into its constituent atoms, the mighty power of religion."

Passing on, lastly, to a consideration of the "international anarchy of Christendom," Mr. Cairns says:

"Here, as elsewhere, we find great present evils and formidable dangers ahead. The traveler through modern Europe finds the nations everywhere armed to the teeth. The roads are planned and measured for the passage of armies and cannon. The great caserns are crowded with conscripts, the roll of musketry resounds from the firing-ranges in forest glade and open field, the recruits are drilled and marched and countermarched on the dusty parades and the wide stubble fields. The great Powers are one and all groaning under the burden of militarism. . . . . .

"Can we ascribe these evils to any one main cause? Yes, their foundation cause is unquestionably that materialistic and selfish view of the true good which we found to underlie the industrial evils of the time. If the central interest of men lies in material and private good, then inasmuch as there is only a limited amount of that good obtainable, the principle of division can only be that of conflict. Wars simply represent the animal struggle for existence carried up into the human sphere. . . . The task here, as in the national sphere, is nothing short of the moralization of man, and if man's interests be simply material and temporal, the hope of persuading him to forego them for the sake of the common weal is of the most visionary kind. But if he knows himself to be a son of God, and an immortal being, the whole conditions of the problem are altered. His nature becomes plastic to the tremendous sanctions of the divine law, and in the grasp of eternity, he becomes capable of such abnegations and heroisms as life in a noble and progressive society demands of all its members. It is, then, in religion, and in religion alone, that the hope lies of such a transformation of the individual as can render an international concordat possible, just as it is in religion alone that the hope of true national progress lies."

THE INTELLECTUAL LIMITATIONS OF JESUS.

IF we reflect that divine attributes, such as omnipotence, omnipresence, and omniscience, can never be conceived as expressing themselves fully in terms of finite being, we shall not be surprised by the idea that Christ was subject to intellectual limitation. "There is no evidence in the record of this peerless life," says the Rev. Dr. George P. Eckman, a New York clergyman, "of any claim on the part of Jesus to possess unconditioned omniscience. On the contrary, there is much to support an opposite view." Dr. Eckman does not discuss the difficulties which "inhere in the acknowledgment of this self-limitation of the Son of God," and which "constitute the chief battle-ground of the never-ending Christological controversy." He thinks, however, that we are bound to accept the facts contained in the narrative of Christ's life, and to assent to the truths thus objectively presented, tho our reason can not explain them. He says further (in *The Methodist Review*, March-April):

"The predictive element in the utterances of Jesus doubtless transcends that discoverable in the messages of the prophets who foretold his coming and the apostles who continued his work. Yet in one respect it is similar: his consciousness of future events was limited. He committed no errors of fact, but the extent of his knowledge was restricted. He was infallible in all his teachings, but his vision of the future was not projected to infinity. His omniscience was conditioned by the human nature which he had assumed. He knew that the final judgment impended, that Jerusalem would be overthrown, that he would come again to judge the quick and the dead, but unless Matthew and Mark are unreliable witnesses, he assured his hearers that he did not know the time of these events. 'Of that day and that hour knoweth no man, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.' Various attempts have been made to explain this declaration in consistency with the theory of Christ's absolute omniscience, but they uniformly cast a shadow on the candor of Jesus. Theodoret's comment is pertinent: 'If he knew the day and, wishing to conceal it, said he was ignorant, see what blasphemy is the result. Truth tells a lie.' A similar obscuration of omniscience is apparent in the incident of the two disciples' request to be assigned to places of preeminence in the coming kingdom, which Jesus declares are not at his disposal. 'From the few utterances of this kind,' says Wendt, 'we perceive that Jesus, while conscious of knowing the divine plan *as a whole*, yet did not, therefore, claim to possess a foreknowledge of this gracious plan *in its details*.' If the future was perfectly clear to him, it is difficult to account for the prayer in Gethsemane, 'O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me!' or to explain the agonizing cry upon the cross, 'My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?' if he saw the uttermost depths of the divine mind. Many illustrations of this subordination of Christ's mental vision to the necessities of his human nature will occur to every thoughtful reader of the New Testament, and taken in conjunction with the fact that he expresses surprise at some occurences, that he requests information with evident sincerity, that he has recourse to prayer for guidance and inspiration, that he asserts his dependence on the Father for instruction, that he has not contributed anything to the world's knowledge of material things, tho these were constantly employed as symbols of spiritual truth, raise a strong presumption, to say the least, that Jesus did not possess absolute divine omniscience."

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

ADMIRAL MAKAROFF PREPARES TO DEAL WITH ADMIRAL TOGO.

ADMIRAL TOGO calls regularly at Port Arthur, where he salutes Admiral Makaroff, now in command of Russia's naval forces, with a broadside fire from every battle-ship available. Admiral Makaroff finds, to his regret, that he can not reciprocate in kind because, as the London *Telegraph* suspects, his stock of ordnance for twelve-inch guns has run low. He has, accordingly, fallen back upon his auxiliary armament, within range of which Admiral Togo neglects to come.

ADMIRAL MAKAROFF.

A recent portrait of the naval commander at Port Arthur from whom Russia expects a bold stroke soon.

The net result of these mutual attentions, so far, is canvassed with animation by the allies of the interested parties. The conviction of the London *News* that Russia's squadron is now full of holes seems offset by the certainty of the *Journal des Débats* (Paris) that Admiral Togo's battle-ships and cruisers have suffered considerably from the strain of action in severe weather. The French organ is comforted, too, by the reflection that the life of a gun aboard a battle-ship ebbs away with every shot, a fact which Admiral Togo may yet learn to his cost. The experts of the London *Mail* attribute to Admiral Makaroff misgivings concerning what goes by the name of coal throughout Manchuria. If the fuel justifies its English defamers, it will display the most erratic characteristics in the stokeholes of the Czar's fighting-ships. Yet even Welsh coal, so smokeless and so combustible, deteriorates after a lengthy period of storage, we are assured by the military expert of the *Figaro* (Paris), and the coal question will not trouble the Russian admiral more than it may trouble some other admiral. "The position of the blockaded squadron is painful," comments the London *Standard*, "and indeed discreditable." It thus intimates that the beginning of the end, so far as concerns the present duel between Admiral Togo and Admiral Makaroff, is probably at hand:

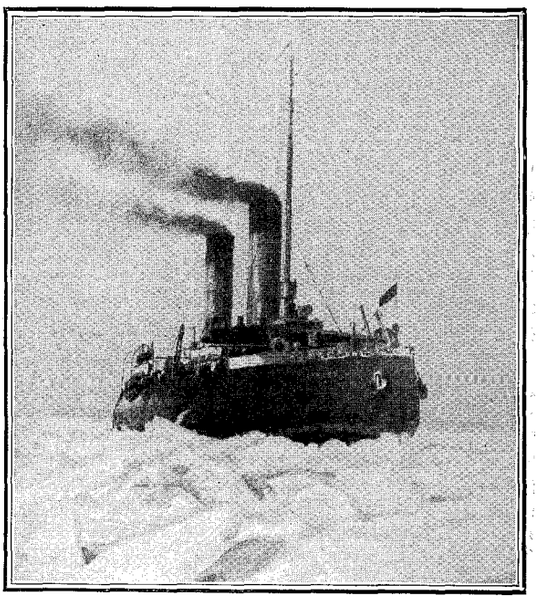
"That Port Arthur will be isolated there can be no doubt, and for that eventuality the Russians are prepared. The fall of the place would be a grievous blow to their *prestige*, and on that ground alone, but also because possession of the port is essential for any subsequent naval effort on their part, it will be defended to the last, as General Stoessel has declared. Whether the Japanese will attempt to carry it by storm has yet to be seen. It may be enough for them to invest and neutralize it, with the certainty that sooner or later it will fall into their hands."

Near as this prospect seems when contemplated through the English end of the telescope, it seems quite distant when looked at through the Parisian end. Admiral Makaroff, according to the *Figaro*, has repaired one at least of his battle-ships, while three cruisers, stated at different times to have been put out of action, are really in a position to leave the inner harbor and to take the offensive. And if the information supplied by the Paris *Temps* is accurate, Admiral Makaroff is comparatively indifferent to the effects of Admiral Togo's ten- and twelve-inch guns. Admiral Makaroff, says the *Temps*, believes in small, unarmored ships of war, as distinguished from large armored cruisers. "The improvements in ordnance, according to him, have surpassed all improvements in armor, the latter affording at present no protection aganst projectiles correctly sighted."

The truth is, according to the French, that Admiral Makaroff is preparing a bold stroke. The *Figaro* learns this upon the authority of "a personage whose name is known to all Russia," and who points out that Admiral Makaroff is able to communicate with the squadron of fast cruisers supposed to be at or near Vladivostok. The personage, whose name is known all over Russia, assured the *Figaro* that nothing very definite could be stated regarding the naval strategy under contemplation at Port Arthur. The secret must be kept from the enemy. "But a blow is preparing worthy of the might of Russia." The London *Standard* has not sufficient imagination to conceive Admiral Makaroff in an aspect so novel. "Admiral Makaroff is known in this country as a scientific mariner of distinguished ability," it remarks, "but not as a fighting seaman." "He is considered," retorts the *Figaro*, "the most brilliant and the most energetic officer in the whole Russian navy." This, in the opinion of the London *News*, is not saying very much, and it estimates the importance of the Vladivostok squadron from the fact that its exploits have as yet been restricted to the consumption of great quantities of coal.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

HORRORS OF LAKE BAIKAL.

FROM the slopes of a high mountain on the southern shores of Lake Baikal, compact boulders of ice and snow roll at times to the track below. One fall occurred, the Paris *Figaro* learns, not long before the arrival of a trainload of Russian soldiers bound for the scene of war. The engine was buried up to its smokestack, and the ensuing wreck resulted in the death or injury of sixteen men. The cold at Lake Baikal, according to the *Indépendance Belge* (Brussels), continues "intense," and there is no prospect of a genuine thaw until well into April. "There is generally a strong wind blowing from the north down the six hundred miles' length of the lake," notes the London *Standard*, "and the



ICE-BREAKER AT LAKE BAIKAL.

This boat, invented, it is said, by Admiral Makaroff, now commanding the fleet in the Far East, has been called "Russia's ally against General January and General February." The ice-breaker is used in Baltic and northern Asiatic waters. At Lake Baikal the ice is said to be so thick that a railway train now runs across it, but another report says that "a locomotive broke through the ice and disappeared."

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position of the miserable troops and the still more wretched transport carters, who must face this weather for at least thirty-six hours in order to get across the lake, is something more than even the native Russian hardiness can endure." But this is an overstatement, thinks the *Journal* (Paris), which has received reports that the railway across the frozen surface of the lake "humanizes the transport" by avoiding the detrainment of regiments. This, again, does not agree with the reports in the London *Times* regarding the disappearance of heavy articles, including one locomotive, "through great fissures," which, from recent reports, are as frequent as they are unexpected. There is even greater discrepancy on the subject of the "tea-stations" and "food deposits" represented in the *Figaro* as existing at intervals along a line of march indicated, according to the London *News*, by the horses and human beings who have perished there. Thousands of detrained Russian troops, says the London *Standard*, "after marching all day to a place where they expected to find proper food and odging land other preparations made to receive them, found to their dismay only a few sheds and huts and no food."

RUSSIAS' ATTITUDE.
—*Jugend* (Munich).

But the sufferings of the soldiers, as all English authorities agree, are exceeded by the sufferings of the women and children. These non-combatants are "flying from Manchuria," says the London *Times*, only to find themselves, after days of imprisonment in the most primitive railway conveyances, huddled together without food or shelter on the eastern shore of the frozen lake, awaiting their turn to cross. The spectacle they present is described by the English daily as "truly pitiable," and of one consignment of this human freight the London *Standard*, on the authority of eye-witnesses, relates:

"At Lake Baikal this pitiful freight of women and children, the babe at the breast and the babe unborn, turned out of their trucks and carriages for the first time for five weary days to face the dreaded crossing of the frozen lake. For five interminable days the poor wretches had perforce been kept shut up in the train, which nowhere stopped long enough to admit of air or exercise being taken, but, ever on and on, thousand mile after thousand mile, to reach safety. And at Lake Baikal were Russian troykas, three horses harnessed abreast to a sledge, and here the women and babes piled in, crowded for warmth, and wrapped, such as had warm clothing, into shapeless heaps of shawls and furs. In the fear of exposing tender children to the frosty air and the wind which ever blows along the six hundred miles length of this mysterious lake, the wrapping was sometimes overdone. Several children were found dead by the time that five hours' gallop across the lake came to an end. And how many fell ill none knows. Influenza broke out aboard the train, but none dare break down, and the flushed, feverish faces of brave mothers told a tale as sad as the pale, wan faces of the little sufferers."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE MEANING OF JAPAN'S CAUTION ON THE YALU.

SOMETHING of sufficient importance to cause an essential modification of Japan's plan of campaign has very probably happened in northern Korea. This is the theory upon which the newspapers of continental Europe account for the banishment of all war correspondents from the front. These enterprising young men, we read in the *Fremdenblatt* (Vienna), were overjoyed at the prospect of a termination to their period of impatient idleness at the extreme rear. A few of the more favored were actually making for the theater of war, and others were to follow. But now all permits are revoked without a word of warning, and the secrets of Ping Yang, Wonsan, and other familiar places remain impenetrable.

London newspapers are at no loss to account for all this Japanese caution. The Mikado's subjects are a secretive people, we are reminded by the London *Times*, and they have not yet wholly grasped the Western idea of discussing one's affairs in the newspapers. The Japanese are well aware of the enormous moral significance of a first victory over a white foe, thinks the London *Standard*, and they are making that victory certain through the establishment of a strategic zone impassable by war correspondents. *The St. James's Gazette* (London) seems as expectant as ever of "a great surprise," reflecting credit upon the military prowess of Great Britain's ally, while the London *News* continues to wonder if the Russians may not become victims of some gigantic mystification engineered from Tokyo.

Short work is made of all these hypotheses on the continent of Europe. The military expert of the *Journal des Débats* (Paris) reminds us that it is the Japanese who are supposed to suffer from delay, and he speculates as to whether present delay can be of a voluntary character, since Japan is said to command the sea. The *Temps* (Paris) points out that a new and capable Russian commander-in-chief is hurrying to Manchuria to lead the Czar's army, and Japan, presumably, may wish to strike her first blow before his appearance upon the scene. The *Figaro* (Paris) considers it certain that Japan's fleet sustained serious injuries before Port Arthur, "of which the secret was kept," and it infers that the main army, wherever it is, may have met with misfortunes and obstacles of which nothing is revealed. And that candid critic, the *Fremdenblatt* (Vienna), suspects Japan of having too promptly taken Russia's measure. The inglorious Russia of recent watery catastrophes is not, we are told, to be confounded with the mighty Russia who is now to show her superior familiarity with continental areas.

These general considerations are strengthened, in the opinion of our continental authorities, by the military situation that now presents itself on the banks of the Yalu. The real cause of the long wait, asserts the *Figaro*, is to be found in the great superiority of Russia in cavalry combined with the admitted inferiority of the Japanese in that arm. The *Fremdenblatt* would sum it up in the word "Cossack." It interprets all reports of recent skirmishes between outposts in the region north of Ping Yang as evidence of Japan's inability to pierce the Cossack line—at least for the present. And the French paper thinks that Japan's superiority in numbers south of the Yalu does not materially affect this situation. The Cossacks are holding the Japanese back while Russia mobilizes near Harbin or, perhaps, farther north. The number of Cossacks thus engaged daily increases, a fact of dire import to Japan, if we may accept the verdict of the pro-Russian French organ. To quote:

"The Japanese troops assembled in the region about Seoul have lately commenced their movement northward. It would seem that we must wait some time yet for any great battle, because the greater part of Russia's forces must still be some distance from the frontiers of Korea. On the other hand, we shall witness, in all probability, frequent skirmishes of the outposts in the region of

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the Yalu. The opposing forces have already come into contact near Ping Yang.

"In these initial skirmishes we shall undoubtedly observe the superiority of the Russian cavalry accentuated. In the Far East the Russian cavalry is almost wholly composed of these famous Cossacks, whose renown is worldwide.

"It is well known in a general way that under the name of Cossacks are comprehended the population of certain frontier regions of Russia throughout Europe and Siberia. Grouped in communities termed voiskos, the Cossacks have a political and civil organization of their own primitive kind.

"Accustomed for generations to defend the Russian Empire against its terrible neighbors, trained to the profession of arms by struggles against the Turks, the Tatars, and the Chinese, the Cossacks have preserved to our own days their warlike spirit and their warlike tastes, which the Russian Government has striven to develop in order to reap every advantage from them.

"In return for certain privileges, such as exemption from taxes, the Cossacks have agreed to bear a military burden much greater than that imposed upon the other inhabitants of Russia. They are all without distinction bound to serve for twenty years. This period of service they can diminish neither by purchase nor by substitution. They must, moreover, pay for their own horses and their own weapons.

"From their very infancy the Cossacks learn to ride a horse. The difficulties they find in subsisting inure them to fatigue and privation, of which they do not complain. Hence, when they go into the army, they are already accomplished cavalrymen, patient, obedient, incapable of fatigue. As for the officers, they are in no respect inferior to the officers of regular cavalry. They are all educated at military schools.

"The military education given to Cossacks is very complete. The squadrons or sotnias are always ready to fight afoot as well as on horseback. Their weapons at present consist of a sword, a dagger, and a rifle. The men in the front ranks are also equipped with a spear.

"It is easy to understand the advantages which may be derived from soldiers who can with equal ease act as cavalrymen for the shock of battle or as mounted infantrymen.

"The Cossacks are better adapted than any other troops would be to oppose an impenetrable barrier to the Japanese cavalry, to find out the strength of the enemy, and to halt their advancing columns.

"Just now, when it is essential to cover the Russian concentration, the Cossacks are playing a most important part. The preliminary skirmishes which have been taking place reveal the perfect aptitude and the correctness of the Cossack tactics.

"At a considerable distance from the Yalu we see reconnoissances being pushed toward the south. These small and mobile forces have no intention of giving battle. Their mission is simply that of looking for the enemy, and when they have found him they cling to him and watch all his movements. What is required, above all, of the Cossacks is to keep headquarters well informed, and, with all deference to the Anglo-American press, the Russians have sought nothing more at Ping Yang."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

SOUTH AFRICA'S CHINESE LABOR EXCITEMENT.

ISSUES affecting not only the social, political, and industrial future of South Africa, but, according to newspaper comment, the moral destinies of the British Empire, are involved in the Transvaal's Chinese labor problem. "Here is slavery—limited indeed in duration—and the slave-trade, restored in a colony and sanctioned by the imperial Government after two hundred millions have been spent in a war to make Africa British, and so far as is possible white," declares *The Pilot* (London), which opposed the importation of the coolies into the mining region, but which predicted that the financial magnates will procure "slave labor for the Transvaal." The London *Times*, a stanch advocate of the importation of the Chinese into South Africa, speaks of "the neces-

The Cossacks are suspected of having caused much of the delay in coming to close quarters on the Yalu, where Japan is said to intend dealing her long expected first blow. The Japanese army is deficient in cavalry, whereas the Cossacks render Russia strong in that arm. The photograph shows a military staff of "Cossacks of the Don."

A COSSACK COMMANDER AND HIS STAFF.

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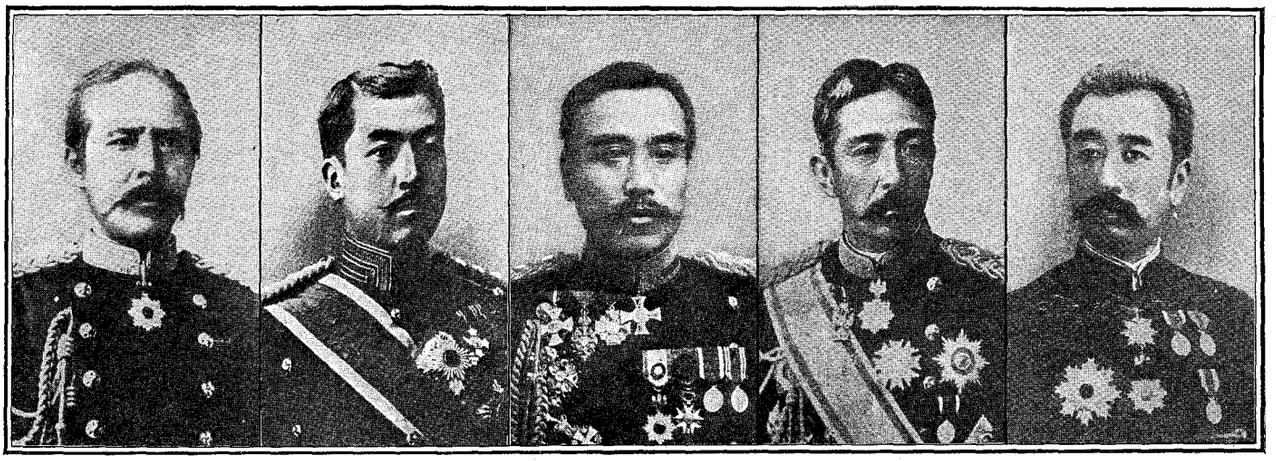

GEN. BARON T. KUROKI.

He is understood to have taken up the question of the Japanese cavalry, which is proving very deficient, according to the news despatches.

PRINCE KOTOHITO KANIN.

A scion of the royal house, we believe, altho a Japanese prince does not always have a definite status. He is now a major-general in the cavalry.

LIEUT.-GEN. BARON TACHIMI.

He commands the eighth division, which was reported at Ping-Yang in one despatch although another reports it still in Japan.

GEN. COUNT M. NODZU.

He has for years past had supervision of the education of Japan's army officers along western European lines.

LT.-GEN. BARON OSHIMA.

One report assigns him to the command of the third division, a force which embarked on the first despatch of troops to the mainland.

COMMANDERS RESPONSIBLE FOR JAPAN'S FIRST BLOW ON LAND.

sity for supplementing the labor supply of our new colonies by the importation of Asiatics," and adds that "the prosperity of the Transvaal is bound up with the prosperity of the mines; the mines are short of labor, and, therefore, can not prosper. The South African native can not or will not furnish the requisite amount of labor, unskilled white labor does not pay, even supposing that it can be induced to emigrate, and the inhabitants of the Transvaal are forced by a relentless series of syllogisms to regard Asiatic labor as their only chance of financial salvation."

Every one of these contentions is denied by the London *Spectator*, which says the mining companies have practised coercion in procuring the forty-five thousand signatures to the petition which influenced one South African legislative council—not a popularly elected body—to pronounce in favor of Chinese labor. "In many cases it is a question of signing the petition or dismissal." Anti-Chinese meetings in South Africa, we are further told in this weekly organ, have been broken up by the paid retainers of the mine-owners. *The African Review* (London), which is an investors' organ, is very much opposed to any discussion of the question in the House of Commons, holding that the action of the legislative council on the spot is sufficient. Great importance is attached by the London *News* to the objections to Chinese labor which have been urged by Premier Seddon, of New Zealand, Premier Deakin, of Australia, and the authorities of Cape Colony. *The Saturday Review* (London), however, says these objections should not be taken into account. The London *News* predicts that the introduction of Chinese will bring about a problem more complicated than that of the negro in the United States. It makes the topic a basis for predictions that Mr. Balfour's ministry can not survive. London *Truth*, on the other hand, believes that the introduction of the Chinese will end for a long time any prospect of federating the British Empire:

"We have not quite forgotten the Helots' petition before the war, for which signatures were bought at so much per hundred. One of the few newspapers not owned by the Park-laners in South Africa has given an interesting account of how these intelligent capitalists paid roughs openly to figure as working men at meetings favorable to Chinese dumping, to vote for resolutions, and to break up meetings held on the other side. They are, therefore, drawing too heavy a draft on our credulity when they ask us to believe that the signatures to the petition that they have just got up are genuine, altho they assure us that they have been checked and audited by themselves. The signatures very possibly are there. But how did they get there? In some cases by bribery, and in others by undue pressure. The petition, they say, is really a referendum. If so, why did they protest against a referendum when proposed? Because the voting would have been secret."

ANOTHER GREAT NAVY SCHEME IN GERMANY.

GERMANY is on the eve of a further ambitious enlargement of her battle-ship and cruiser squadrons, according to positive announcements in usually well-informed German newspapers. The *Grenzboten* (Leipsic), the imperialist organ, was the first to hint at the matter, but the subject attracted no particular attention until the *Danziger Zeitung* took it up. This paper declares that the thirty-eight battle-ships to be completed by 1920 (by 1917 according to other authorities) "will be wholly inadequate to the protection of German interests" even in conjunction with the cruisers now built or building. Accordingly, a new navy bill is in preparation. The date of its presentation to the Reichstag depends upon circumstances. The *Vorwärts* (Berlin) has long been suspicious of something of this sort, but the Socialist organ does not look for the appearance of the new bill during the present session. The prospect of delay is aggravating to the *Rheinisch-Westfälische Zeitung*, which says that the contemplated enlargement of the navy program is due, among other things, to the need of protecting Germany's interests in South America. To quote:

"The construction of a third double squadron can not be deferred. Nations in which we have immense interests to protect, such as Brazil, Chile, and Argentina, possess imposing battle-ships and powerful cruisers. We can not impress such countries, when the necessity arises, by sending to them small cruisers or antiquated schoolships, too old for action. The presence of the Brandenburg squadron in the Far East was of incalculable importance in establishing a prestige for the German fleet. But it enters into the head of no one in this country to engage in rivalry with the navy of Great Britain. . . . . .

"There are stations to which armored cruisers or powerful protected cruisers may be sent in place of battleships. This is a matter for subsequent consideration. The one thing certain is that the additional six large cruisers and seven small ones under consideration for foreign service would be hopelessly inadequate. A demand for something more than this will be presented in due time, because the firm conviction exists in navy circles that without powerful squadrons on distant stations Germany can not fulfil her destiny on the water.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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NOTABLE BOOKS OF THE DAY.

A CONTEMPORARY OF ADAM BEDE'S.

THE STORY OF SUSAN. By Mrs. Henry Dudeney. Cloth, 384 pp. Price, $1.50. Dodd, Mead & Co.

THE scenes and the people of this story are cast in the days when the late Queen Victoria was spoken of as the "young queen," and so clearly does the author present the difference between the social atmosphere then and now that the reader becomes impressed with the truth of this glimpse of English life in the "thirties." The people here are essentially the same as those with whom George Eliot occupied herself in her earlier stories—the lower middle class, trades-people, an occasional clergyman, with social viewpoints that differentiate the church-people from the dissenters.

The heroine, Susan, is a lady's maid whose sweet-natured worldliness and weakness of will are ever at war with the pious intentions that prompt her to live up to the mark approved by her devoted but strenuous-minded Methodist lover, Martin Heritage. In the rectitude that condemns, coupled with the kindliness that forgives, Heritage reminds one in certain ways of Adam Bede, just as certain points in Susan's conduct, growing out of lack of mental poise and a love of natural pleasure, recall Hetty. Like George Eliot's stories, too, this book may serve to point the difference between the early spirit of Methodism in England and the modifications which time has wrought in it.

MRS. HENRY DUDENEY.

The similarity between George Eliot's and Mrs. Dudeney's work does not pass beyond the point of view. Style and treatment are different. Mrs. Dudeney, tho quite as leisurely in her method, does not exhibit the same sense of responsibility as that which exhaled from the pages of the older author. Her humor, tho diffused and subtly pervasive, lacks the point and pith of George Eliot's. Indeed, in this book Mrs. Dudeney differs from herself. She is less subtle and less cynical than in her earlier stories, and especially in those dealing with present-day London life.

"The Story of Susan" has the charm of lightness of touch—a touch that is at once penetrating, playful, and sympathetic. There is little plot and not much in the way of dramatic situation. The interest is sustained through play of character upon character and skilful interpositions on the author's part by way of telling the story. It is not the sort of tale in which beauty of workmanship is lost in the rush of emotion.

PORRIDGE FROM A SCOTCH KITCHEN.

MRS. M'LERIE. By J. J. Bell. Cloth, 230 pp. Price, $1.00. The Century Company.

"MRS. M'LERIE" ought to be enormously delightful to those who like that sort of thing. To those who do not, it will be like a red rag to a bull, and they will devoutly wish that the condition of the Scottish brain, which is said to require a surgical operation for its reception of a joke, might have another restriction, to wit, that the said brain could never, even through the drastic beneficence of cold steel, even let one out. Mr. Bell is not so much kail-yard as he is warm porridge.

"Mrs. M'Lerie" is a highland "Mr. Dooley" *in petto;* the likeness, however, is only superficial. The dame has a foil in her neighbor, Mrs. Munro; and in this series of sketches that good creature plays Mr. Hennesy's *rôle*. The wearisome iteration of interrogatory and laboriously extorted response suggests the method of old-time colored minstrels, when the "middle" man dragged replies from the "end" man. Mrs. M'Lerie is also a Mrs. Malaprop, and, through the same mental strain, sometimes lapses into a moldy little pun. When this collection of graces is served with Scotch dialect galore, the brimming cup of joy overflows.

Think of the magnanimity of an author when he will go to such verbal lengths as this to make others happy:

"No' if I wis to be tortured on the rack," said Mrs. Munro, who was fond of reading Foxe's "Book of Martyrs."

"I lift yin o' my paircels on the rack," said Mrs. M'Lerie, "but I got it the next day."

"I did na mean that kin' o' rack. I meant the rack for—for streechin' folk."

"Oh, ay."

Some of Mrs. M'Lerie's misfits in the matter of words are: deleerious (deleterious), rattles (raffles), collusion (delusion), dispensary (dispensation), phonograph (monogram), and others of the same cast. The "guid auld wives" are endlessly taking a cup of tea with each other. There is a wonderful "wee lassie" of her son John whom Mrs. M'Lerie holds in extravagant regard. She was even willing to gie up money for it, and at a jumble sale she wanted to buy a "wee chair" for the child. Only, when she had made up her mind to it, the chair had been sold! This is more tragic than most of the tales.

J. J. BELL,

The visit Mrs. M'Lerie paid to her "guid-sister," Mistress M'Corkindale, is simply sad, not tragic, tho the visiting lady nearly runs herself to death in trying to escape from a frolicsome goat whose attentions were entirely playful. Mrs. Munro vainly tries to set before her the healthful delights she must have had in her villaggiatura, such as "milk warm frae the cow," and eggs "new laid."

"It maun be fine to sit doon to yer breckfast, kennen the eggs wis laid that vera mornin'!"

"Maybe... It's no' vera fine hearin' them bein' laid at thrèe o'clock in the mornin'."

"Tits! Ye cudna hear an egg bein' laid, Mistress M'Leerie!"

"Cud I no'?... I tell ye, Mistress Munro, I heard the beasts cryin' 'Cock-'a-leerie-law' every mornin'—ay, even on the Sawbath!"

"Och! That wud be the cocks."

"Aweel, it's a' yin. Whitever it wis, it begood aboot three i' the mornin', an' I never boot an e'e after that. Aw, Mistress Munro, it's a sair job bidin' at a fairm when ye're no' used to it!"

This is as amusing a passage as Mrs. M'Lerie affords.

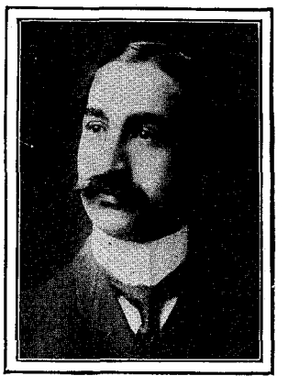
A JEWISH EPIC.

THE FUGITIVE: Being Memoirs of a Wanderer in Search of Home. By Ezra S. Brudno. Cloth, 392 pp. Price, $1.50. Doubleday, Page & Co.

FROM every point of view this is a remarkable story. Told in the first person, the writer makes full use of his opportunity to give it all the forceful directness of a personal narrative, and, dealing with the deepest emotions of the human soul, it emits from point to point the intensity of white heat. The scenes are laid in Lithuanian Russia and the most stirring incidents cluster around the Jewish massacre at Kief—the forerunner of the Kishineff affair.

The reader's introduction to the home life of a prosperous and cultured Jewish family is followed swiftly by the accusation of the father as the murderer of a Christian child for ritual purposes. Speedily upon this comes the downfall of the family and the helpless orphanage of the one supposed to tell the tale.

At this point in the story, the reader, who enjoys a look into the curious customs of a peculiar and isolated people, will be amply gratified. A graphic picture is presented of the way in which orthodox Russian Jews feel in duty bound—however poor themselves—to care for orphans by passing them on from house to house and educating them at public expense.



EZRA S. BRUDNO.

The queer customs and confined outlook of the Jews within the pale make absorbing reading. An intimate record of any people is interesting, but added to the common human interest we have here the unique racial intensity, the self-devouring pride in purity of blood, which upholds the Jew however trampled upon; and, growing out of this again, that peculiar surface humility, put on like a garment, as it were, and which in itself explains the appearance of timidity which careless observers often mistake for cowardice in the ordinary Jew.

In this story we also trace between the lines the thought of the hopelessness of expecting any people of ancient religious faith to ever wholly rid themselves of its influence and take on the mental brand of a faith so comparatively new as Christianity. The latter, when donned by the Jews, is merely an outer garment.

The hero of this story is emphatically an emancipated Jew who comes into intimate touch with the very newest phases of thought, who loves with deepest devotion a Christian maiden whose influence is the main factor in causing him to break with tradition; and yet, to his latest breath, we feel he must remain a Jew of Jews.

No less effective as a life picture is that portion of the story which

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deals with the New York Ghetto, where the hero again falls in with his early friends after they have been driven from Russia.

A rarely observant American may perhaps now and then walk through New York's Ghetto and mark a difference in the bearing, breeding, and intelligence of the people seen there; but to the every-day observer they are all alike. Let such observers read this story, if they care to know how scholars and thinkers and people of genius and fine traditions feel penned in among their inferiors in the slums of New York.

This story is as pathetic as Martha Wolfenstein's "Idyls of the Gass." It has the same intense heart cry of the Jew; but the cry is more searching and far-reaching.

THE HARDIHOOD OF MR. HARDY.

THE DYNASTS. By Thomas Hardy. Cloth, 5 x 7½ in., 228 pp. Price, $1.50 net. The Macmillan Company.

MR. THOMAS HARDY, in his latest work, "The Dynasts," has set a doughty task to the critic. It is serenely set forth on the title-page as "A Drama of the Napoleonic Wars, in Three Parts, Nineteen Acts and One Hundred and Thirty Scenes." This may well make any one pause and breathe hard. But a study of Part First—which is all that this volume contains, and it is the only one in print as yet—renders the prospect still more appalling. The *dramatis personæ* number one hundred and thirty-five, and, as if this were not enough, there are introduced phantom intelligences, five in number, with spirit messengers and recording angels. After which one is relieved to find that Mr. Hardy avows in his Preface that "The Dynasts" is intended simply "for mental performance." There is a fore-scene in the over-world, and the stage settings, which are highly colored specimens of descriptive writing, would convince an idiot that this ponderous drama could not be put upon any boards. "Effects" are circumstantially outlined which make the stage mechanism of "Parsifal" seem as simple as the unfolding of a sweet-brier rose.

"A new and penetrating light descends on the spectacle, enduing men and things with a seeming transparency, and exhibiting as one organism the anatomy of life and movement in all humanity and vitalized matter included in the display."

From this First Part of "The Dynasts" it is patent that Mr. Hardy selected his theme with special consideration for a luxuriously intimate exposure of his attitude toward man's destiny and toward the Primal Cause of all things. His conception of the "Immanent Will" is unrighteous to the degree of blasphemy, regarded from the Christian standpoint, and its Poe-like uncanniness is saved from being blood-curdling only by its fatuity. The Greek notion of the avenging gods is sanity compared with this nightmare of an all-moving but listless "It" that has gangrened an Englishman's brain.

In "Life's Little Ironies" Mr. Hardy has previously given a clear idea of his position as to this primal agency, and it was bitterly pessimistic. In one of the poems, called "Hap," he avers that, could he but feel himself the tortured butt of some vengeful god, "then would I bear, and clench myself and die, steeled by the sense of ire unmerited." But the reality, according to his conception, is not even as soothing as this, for he goes on to say:

> " . . . How arrives it joy lies slain,
> And why unblooms the best hope ever sown?
> *Crass Casualty* obstructs the sun and rain,
> And dicing Time for gladness casts a moan.
> . . . . . .
> These purblind Doomsters had as readily strown
> Blisses about my pilgrimmage as pain."

This idea is brought out in "The Dynasts" at greater length, with insistent suggestion of Mr. Hardy's baleful plight in the grip of such morbid conception. One is minded to deal out to him the service of the practical hostess in Henry V.: "Now I, to comfort him, bid him a' should not think of God." He would certainly be not only happier himself, and more philosophical, but far more grateful to his fellow men were he to ban the subject utterly from his brain and lips. This idea, however, is the paramount one in "The Dynasts." He takes the horrors of war, precipitated by that sublime *parvenu*, Napoleon, as an object-lesson of the insensate juggling of his malignant, prepotent "It."

As for the literary quality of this lengthy work, he composes his Brobdignagian mosaic with strenuous, artistic patience. The imagination is filled with the character of the scenes, and the action is vivid, realistic, and synthesized in an able manner. As poetry, it is grandiose to turgidity in its style, with scant appeal to the higher emotions. Napoleon's intention of utilizing marine forces for the subjugation of England plays a large part in this first instalment of "The Dynasts," and the battle of Trafalgar is graphically pictured. It concludes with the death of Pitt.

But the most interesting point for consideration is the Preface, for there Mr. Hardy gives the *raison d'être* of this portentous drama. Owing to his familiarity with the part of England most agitated by the prospect of "Bony's" descent upon Albion, a section in which George III. had a summer residence, and where Hardy, Nelson's flag-captain at Trafalgar, was born, he was led to write "The Trumpet-Major," in 1879. Hardy found then that he was "in the tantalizing position of having touched the fringe of a vast international tragedy, without being able, through limits of plan, knowledge, and opportunity, to enter farther into its events." Six years ago he outlined "The Dynasts," and has been at work on it, at odd intervals, ever since. He felt that continental writers had paid provokingly slight regard to English influence and action throughout that struggle.

As to his introduction of "certain impersonated abstractions, or intelligences, called spirits," after saying that "they are intended to be taken by the reader for what they may be worth as *contrivances of the fancy merely*," with the further remark that "their doctrines are but tentative, and are advanced with little eye to a systemized philosophy warranted to lift 'the burthen of the mystery' of this unintelligible world," he adds that "the chief thing hoped for them is that they and their utterances may have dramatic plausibility enough to procure for them, in the words of Coleridge, "that willing suspension of disbelief for the moment which constitutes poetic faith."

This apologetic attitude toward the introduction of supernatural agencies does not chime in with the brazen forwardness with which Mr. Hardy exploits his monstrous conception of the primal all-doer. The spirits are introduced merely to bring out concisely and with shifty cunning the inherent atrocity of this supreme Caliban. Mr. Hardy says "the scheme of contrasted choruses and other conventions of this external feature was shaped with a single view to the modern expression of a modern outlook." In this same spirit of advanced modernity, which, happily, seems represented by Mr. Hardy alone, he speaks of his grewsome primal force as "It." He courteously accounts for this also: "The abandonment of the masculine pronoun in allusions to the first or fundamental energy seemed a necessary and logical consequence of the long abandonment by thinkers of the anthropomorphic conception of the same." The derogatory character of Mr. Hardy's appellative is slight aspersion on God composed to the horrible essence ascribed to Him. It is not too much to assert that the author is writing this drama for the sake of relieving his mind of the grisly phantom that weighs upon it so heavily. Were such an omnipotent monster personal and volent, mankind might have the grim pleasure of cursing him, as Mr. Hardy says he would do. But Mr. Hardy makes him an utterly irresponsible agent, who doesn't know what he is doing! It is a remarkable production, but an unwholesome one.

A BOOK ON EYE-STRAIN.

BIOGRAPHIC CLINICS. Vol. II. By George M. Gould, M.D. Cloth, 375 pp. Price, $1.00. P. Blakiston's Sons & Co.

THIS volume may be called a continuation of one issued under the same title a year ago which dealt with the ill-health of De Quincy, Carlyle, Darwin, Huxley, and Browning. This treats in similar manner of the ill-health of George Eliot, George Henry Lewes, Wagner, Parkman, Jane Welch Carlyle, Spencer, Whittier, Margaret Fuller Ossoli, and Neitzsche. The sufferings of each and all of these distinguished personages, the author emphatically insists, were due primarily to "migraine," or eye-strain.

In his preface, the author complains of the general indifference or coldness toward his first book, not only by critics, but by those of his own profession as well. "The members of the profession," he says, "are therefore not in possession of the facts because, as I think, of the malfunction of their journalists and reviewers. For this reason I have thought it my duty to continue the studies and to gather a new series into a second volume."

Surely, here is a subject which any reviewer may be pardoned for not attempting to speak on with authority, even while fully sympathizing with the earnestness of the author, who, as some of his critics say, is "possessed by a theory" from which the bulk of his own profession dissent. To assert that all the physical miseries growing out of what have been long classed as neurotic disorders are due to defective vision evokes important questions which are beyond most reviewers.

Dr. Gould is the editor of a medical publication and the author of many medical works. He is a specialist and an intensely earnest special pleader for the things he believes. He gives us a curiously interesting compilation of the utterances of the eminent personages of whom he treats and of their friends, and, comparing the facts of periodic illness which are thus brought out with what Dr. Gould knows of eye-strain and its many ramifications, he certainly appears to have convinced himself that the eye is the primal factor in the troubles described. The reader will find much that is interesting and instructive, even if at the end Dr. Gould fails to convince him that all the temperamental tragedies which wrecked the lives of Carlyle and his wife, for instance, had their origin in eye-strain. Here is his thesis in brief:

"The eye being the creator of the intellect and the instrument, as well, of all mental activity, the mind and disposition are speedily and frequently morbidized by ocular malfunction. I really believe that eye-strain is one of the greatest of all causes of 'domestic infelicity,' and that many a divorce has been due to it. If a woman becomes a scold, a gadabout, or everlastingly ailing, the probability is, of course, that hers is another case of the very common disease called 'new woman'; but it may be one of eye-strain in the 'old woman.' Even the noble animal, man, may display incompatibility of temper, go to the saloon or club evenings, or drink too much for the same reason."

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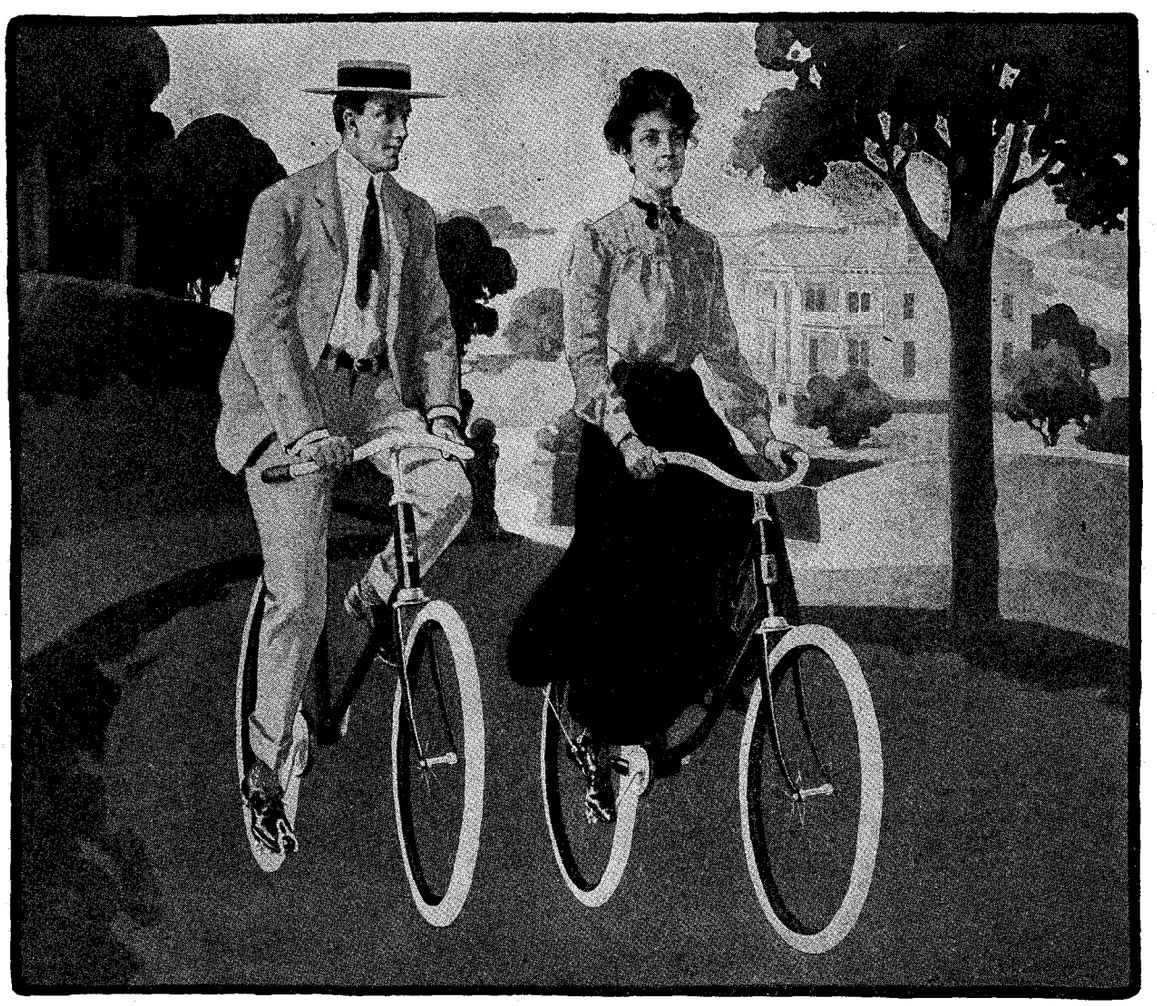

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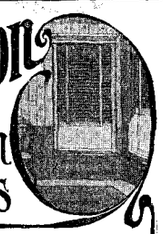

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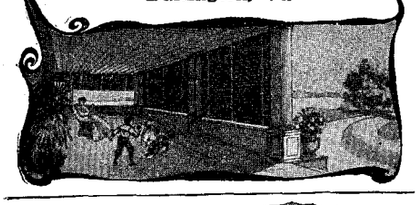

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BOOKS RECEIVED.

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"The Philippine Islands, 1493–1898."—Edited by Emma Helen Blair and James Alexander Robertson. Vol. XI., 1599–1602. (Arthur H. Clark Company, Cleveland, O.)

"To Windward."—Henry C. Rowland. (A. S. Barnes & Co., $1.50.)

"Running the River."—George Cary Eggleston. (A. S. Barnes & Co., $1.50.)

"The Making of English."—Henry Bradley. (245 pp.; $1. net. The Macmillan Company.)

"Christ."—S. D. M'Connell. (232 pp.; $1.25 net. The Macmillan Company.)

"A Life of Theodore Roosevelt."—Frances M. Perry. (126 pp.; J. M. Stradling & Co., New York.)

"The Hour-Glass and Other Plays."—W. B. Yeats. (113 pp.; $1.25 net. The Macmillan Company.)

"The Good Natur'd Man" and "She Stoops to Conquer."—Oliver Goldsmith. New edition. (D. C. Heath & Co.)

"Eastward Hoe" and "The Alchemist."—Ben Jonson. New edition. (D. C. Heath & Co.)

"Around the World with a King."—William N. Armstrong. (Frederick A. Stokes & Co.)

"The Kreutzer Sonata."—Adelaide Comstock. (Broadway Publishing Company, New York.)

"Simon Peter, Fisherman."—Thomas. (Eaton & Mains, $0.75.)

"The Upper Way."—William C. Stiles. (Eaton & Mains, $1.)

"Denis Dent."—Ernest W. Hornung. (Frederick A. Stokes, $1.50.)

"The Vanguard."—James S. Gale. (Fleming H. Revell Company, $1.50.)

"Moorish Empire in Europe."—S. P. Scott. (In three volumes, 2143 pp; $10. net. J. B. Lippincott & Co.)

"The Socialization of Humanity."—Charles Kendall Franklin. (481 pp.; $2. net. Charles H. Keer & Co.)

"Cotton-Picking Time" and other Poems."—Henry Antonio Moos, San Antonio, Texas.

"The Philippines and the Far East."—Homer C Stuntz. (514 pp.; $1.75 net. Jennings & Pye.)

"The Twentieth-Century Money Law."—Timothy Wright. (Paper, $0.50. Peter Eckler, New York.)

"Psychological Year Book."—Janet Young. (Paul Elder & Co., $.050 net.)

"The Master and the Chisel."—Alex F. Irvine. (The People's Church, New Haven, Conn., $0.50.)

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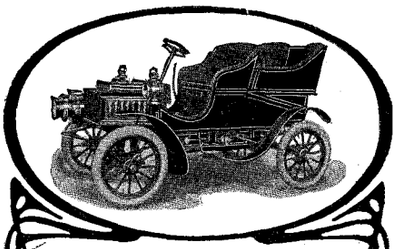
By JOHN B. TABB.

"And my soul from out that shadow that lies
floating on the floor,
Shall be lifted—never more."

All others rest; but I,
Dream-haunted, lie—
A distant roar
As of tumultuous waters, evermore
About my brain.
E'en Sleep, tho fain
To soothe me, flies affrighted; and alone
I bear the incumbent stone
Of Death
That stifles breath,
But not the hideous chorus crying "Shame!"
Upon my name.

Had I not Song?
Yea; and it lingers yet
The souls to fret
Of an ignoble throng,
Aflame with hate
Of the exulting Fate
That hurls their idols from her temple fair,
And shrines me there.

—From *The Independent*.



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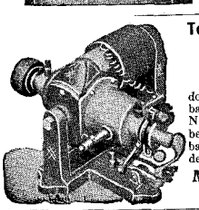

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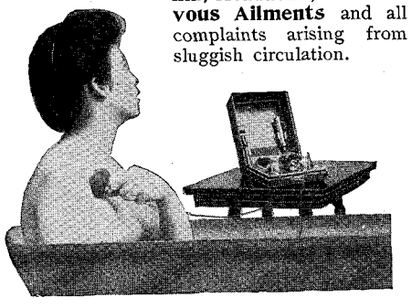

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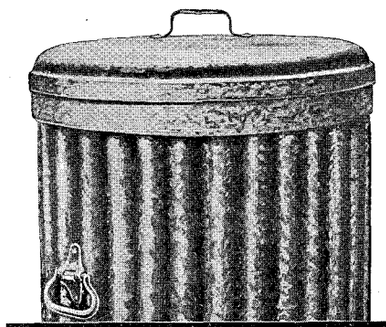

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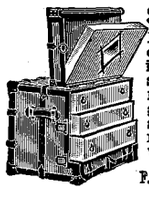

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By SELIM.

All hail, thou dear, benignant tyrant, hail!
Hat of the gorgeous bloom and brimmy curves,
Whose luster bids the very sun grow pale,
And strikes white blindness down the optic nerves
Of him that too incautiously observes,
How pure thy pride! Thy raven gloss, how chaste!
Thy *tout ensemble*, alas, how soon abased!

Thou art too fragile, O thou lovely thing,
For this hard world, where storms be swift and shrewd;
Where danger wanders darkly on the wing,
And men abrade, and "with forced fingers rude"
Scar thine incomparable nigritude.
O woful tale, that careless hands should be
Rough on so frail, so fair, a Hat as thee!

A thousand perils wait thee in the street,
Perils from which thou mayst not ride aloof:
Full many a stabbing brolly thou shalt meet;
Th' inaccurate window in the hansom's roof
With sharp concussion shall not find thee proof,
Nor warm consoling iron, nor suasive plush,
Once gone, may all restore thy pristine blush!

Plebeian felt shall oust thee in thy home,
And coatings rub thy delicate dress awry;
Tho thou wert cased beneath a lucent dome
Of clearest crystal, impious maids would ply
The flippant duster to thine injury;
Dust thee, forsooth! Dear heavens, how long, how long
Must I support this lamentable wrong?
Better and wiser 'twere that thou hadst been
Clothed as thy rugged sires, who nothing knew
Of silken nap or vulnerable sheen;
These from the coy and shivering beaver drew
His furred protection, comely to the view,
Strong in defense, to hurts of rain or wind
Inured, and pleasing all, except the skinned!

And yet I know not. Were it so, perchance,
To see thee hardy were to love thee less.
E'en as the dam's peculiar vigilance
For her one weakling, something doth express
Of love grown deep through tender pitifulness;
And thou wouldst lack beguilement, being stout,
To lure friend Pluvius from his threatened drought.

But come, dear Hat; upon my favored brow
Perch lightly, and affront the glowing skies;
There shall not be so bright a thing as thou
On the fair scene; this noon shall many eyes
Water, and strangers turn to eulogize.
Let us fare forth, and flaunt thy little span
Of triumph, giving pleasure while we can.

—*From Blackwood's.*

The Japanese Warrior.

(OLD STYLE.)

FROM "LE SAMOURAI" OF J. M. DE HEREDIA, By W. P. REEVES.

Sweeping o'er full-voiced chords a careless hand,
Through strips of thin bamboo, her lattice slight,
Lord of her dreams she views her conquering knight
March swinging o'er the broad and dazzling strand.
'Tis he. Two-sworded, holding high a fan,
He comes. A scarlet girdle, red as war,
Glows upon jet-black armor, and from far
Gleams on his arm the blazon of a clan.
Bronze-mailed and lacquer-plated, in array
Of bravest silk,—is this a warrior gay,
Or sea crustacean, vermeil-tinged and dun?
Ah, he has seen! and smiling 'neath his mask,
With quickening pace makes glitter in the sun
Two gilt antennæ quivering o'er his casque.

—From *The Monthly Review.*

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EDITOR: "Well, boil it down. We are terribly crowded to-night."—*Puck.*

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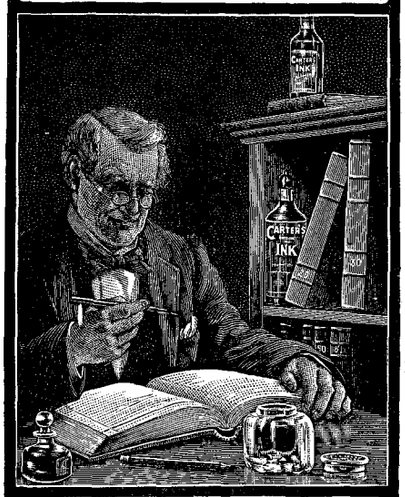

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PERSONALS.

Czar Banishes Paderewski.—A newspaper in Vienna, says a cable despatch to the New York *Sun*, states that Paderewski, the pianist, lately performed at the Russian court. The Czar was delighted and told the performer that he was especially pleased to find such talent in a Russian. "I beg your Majesty's pardon," replied Paderewski, "I am a Pole." Later, on the same day, Paderewski, who had arranged a number of concerts in St. Petersburg, received a police order directing him to leave the capital in twenty-four hours and never to return.

Admiral Makaroff. — Vice-Admiral Stepan Osipovich Makaroff is another commander whom Russia has sent to the Far East to direct the naval campaign against the Japanese. "Imagine 'Fighting Bob' Evans with an impressive beard," writes Vladimir A. Tsanoff in the Boston *Transcript*, and you have Admiral Makaroff. "He has a longer beard than Alexeieff's, and a very much keener, more scientific, more inventive mind than Bob Evans. In war-like ferocity and indomitable pluck the three men are of the same caliber. Alexeieff and Evans would be more likely to swear at a gunner, Makaroff would call him 'Little Brother,' in a tone and in a manner which make heroes out of the most unpromising material." Makaroff is also an inventor, and through his suggestions many improvements were made in the Russian navy. He is fifty-six years old and, like Kuropatkin, he made his mark in the Russo-Turkish war. Here is a brief sketch of his career, which the writer takes from the *Novoya Vremya* (St. Petersburg):

Stepan Osipovich has been in active service a full forty years, since 1864, and his promotions have been in almost every instance due, not to seniority, but to distinguished achievement. Thus, for instance, he served as ensign but two years, 1867-69, as lieutentant but six years, so that he was already an officer in high rank when, during the last Russo-Turkish War, he commanded the gunboat *Grand Duke Constantine*, with which he carried out a whole series of bold attacks upon Turkish ports. It should be added that the armament of the boat and its equipment with torpedoes of small size for sudden attacks upon Turkish harbors was Makaroff's own. This campaign won him advancement to lieutenant-captain, and captain of the second rank; he was honored with the orders of St. Vladimir and St. George, a sword of gold and the title fliegel-adjutant to the late Emperor Alexander II.

In 1881 Stepan (or Stephen) Osipovich took a hand in land warfare in the legion of Skobeleff at the capture of Geok Tepe. At that battle General Kuropatkin also participated, so the commanders of the Russian land and naval forces in the approaching grand campaign in the East were fellow workers in a previous campaign.

In 1881 he commanded the cruiser *Taman*, station guardship of the Russian embassy at Constantinople, enabling him to make a minute study of the defenses of the Bosporus. The next two years were spent as chief-of-staff of the offensive squadron in the Baltic, with Admiral Chihacheff, then Minister of the Navy, and at present member of the Council of the Empire, commanding.

From 1891 to 1894 Stepan Osipovich, ranking counter admiral and inspector-in-chief of naval artillery, was engaged in improvements of ordnance. To him the Russian navy owes a large number of little inventions, among which the so-called cap-guns, possessing 20 per cent. greater power of penetration into the newest superimposed armor.

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Current Events.

Foreign.

RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

March 14.—Admiral Makaroff is reported to have sunk steamers in the channel to the harbor of Port Arthur, leaving only a narrow entrance. Reports of the fall of Port Arthur are denied. Twenty thousand additional Chinese troops are sent to guard the Manchurian border. Newspapers in Russia greet President Roosevelt's recent proclamation regarding neutrality as removing all danger of the United States interfering in the Far East.

March 15.—It is reported that on March 13 Admiral Togo's fleet met the Russian war-ships outside of Port Arthur and a few shots were exchanged. It is strongly believed in Tokyo that Admiral Makaroff had left Port Arthur with his ships to attempt to join the Russian squadron at Vladivostok. Correspondents at Ping-Yang and Anju are sent back to Seoul and their permits to go to the front are revoked. This action is regarded as significant of an imminent forward movement of the Japanese troops toward the Yalu.

March 16.—The Russian Army is reported to have moved in force across the Yalu River into Korea, while a second invasion is in progress on the east coast from Vladivostock. The Russian Ministry of Marine declares that the Japanese have lost five torpedo-boats and four cruisers and have had a battle-ship seriously injured as a result of Admiral Makaroff's dashes from Port Arthur. Great Britain sends a note to Japan and Russia asking that neutral property at New-Chwang be respected.

March 17.—The Russian torpedo-boat destroyer *Skorri* strikes an unplaced mine at the entrance to the harbor of Port Arthur and is blown up, nearly all the crew being lost. A skirmish between Russian cavalry and the Japanese is reported near Anju.

March 18.—Admiral Alexeieff reports an exchange of shots between Japanese infantry and a Russian patrol on the Cheng-Cheng River, near Anju. The enemy, he says, is in some force at Ping-Yang. The Russians are fortifying New-Chwang in anticipation of a Japanese landing.

March 19.—Russia is reported to have asked Germany to protect Russian property at New-Chwang after its evacuation, France having declined a similar request.

March 20.—Russia submits another protest against Japan's alleged violation of the rules of war, charging that on March 10 the quarantine station at Port Arthur was fired on. A Russian order at New-Chwang forbids foreigners to go outside the walls of the city.

OTHER FOREIGN NEWS.

March 15.—The British Government suffers defeat in the House of Commons by the combined vote of the Liberals and Nationalists on the question of the prohibition of the teaching of Gaelic in the Irish nationalist schools.

March 19.—The German forces in Southwest Africa are badly beaten in a fight with the Hereros near Uwikokero.

March 20.—Russia and Austria present a note insisting that Turkey accept their scheme of reforms in Macedonia, and warning the Porte of the grave consequences that would follow further delay.

Domestic.

CONGRESS.

March 14.—*Senate:* The Fortification Appropriation bill is dismissed. Senator Dietrich, of Nebraska, testifies before the investigating committee, denying charges against him of having accepted a bribe in connection with the appointment of postmaster at Hastings, Neb.

House: District of Columbia affairs and the Post-office Appropriation bill are discussed.

March 15.—*Senate:* The Fortification Appropriation bill is passed. Senator Blackburn, of Kentucky, speaks against the confirmation of the nomination of General Wood to be major-general.

House: In the discussion of the Post-office Appropriation bill, Representative Griggs, of Georgia, ridiculed the members of the House for their impetuous tempest over the Bristow report.

March 16.—*Senate:* The nomination of General Wood is discussed, Senator Blackburn concluding his speech opposing the confirmation of the nomination, and Senator Quarles, of Wisconsin, speaks in favor of it.

House: In the debate on the Post-office Appro-

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priation bill, Representative Spight, of Mississippi, resented attacks made upon the South for its treatment of negroes, and further attacks are made on Mr. Bristow.

March 17.—*Senate:* The Quarles bill to repeal the Timber and Stone act is passed; discussion of the nomination of General Wood is continued.

House: A lively debate takes place over the prosecution of the Northern Securities case.

March 18.—*Senate:* The nomination of General Wood to be major-general is confirmed by a vote of 45 to 16.

House: Consideration of the Post-office Appropriation bill continues.

OTHER DOMESTIC NEWS.

March 14.—The United States Supreme Court, by a vote of 5 to 4, decides that the Northern Securities Company is a combination in restraint of trade, and therefore illegal.

March 15.—Governor Vardaman, of Mississippi, vetoes the bill providing $10,000 for a negro school; he sends a long message with the bill stating the reasons for his action.

March 16.—Under a ruling issued by Commissioner Ware, all Civil War veterans over sixty-two years old will be pensioned, thus avoiding the passage of a Service Pension bill by Congress.

March 18.—The Hanna and Foraker factions in the Fourth Ohio Congressional District split and two conventions are held, two candidates for Congress are nominated, and two sets of delegates to the national convention are elected. Both conventions, however, indorse the President.

Daniel J. Sully & Co. fail, causing unparalleled excitement on the New York Cotton Exchange.

March 19.—The Hanna and Foraker men come to blows in the Twentieth Ohio Congressional District.

March 20.—Disastrous prairie fires cause much damage in Nebraska.

CHESS.

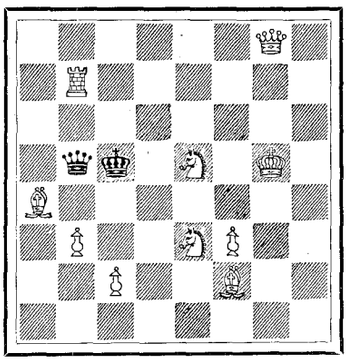
[All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess-Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

Problem 916.

By W. MILLER.

First Prize *Nashville American* Tourney, 1888.

Black—Two Pieces.



White—Ten Pieces.

6 Q 1; 1 R 6; 8; 1 q k 1 S 1 K 1; B 7; 1 P 2 S P 2; 2 P 2 B 2; 8.

White mates in two moves.

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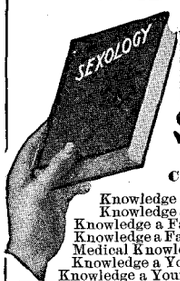

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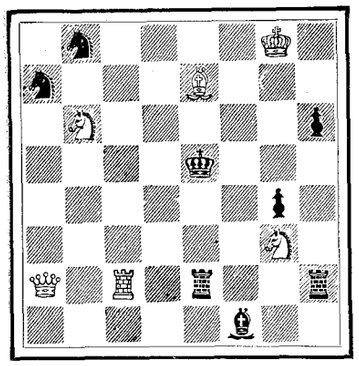
Problem 917.

By A. Kvicala.

First Prize *Suêtozor*, 1869.

Black—Eight Pieces.



White—Six Pieces.

1 S 4 K 1; S 3 B 3; 1 S 5 p; 4 k 3; 6 p 1; 6 S 1; Q 1 R 1 r 2 r; 5 b 2.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 910. Key-move: Q—R 5.

No. 911.

Author's Solution: B—K 4.

Second Solution: P—B 5.

Solved by M. W. H., University of Virginia; the Rev. I. W. B., Bethlehem, Pa.; M. Marble, Worcester, Mass.; the Rev. G. Dobbs, New Orleans; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; H. W, Barry, Boston; A. C. White, New York City; F. Gamage, Westboro, Mass.; Dr. J. H. S., Geneva, N. Y; O. Hagman, Stamford, Conn.; T. Hilgers, Union Hill, N. J.; C. B. E., Youngstown, N. Y.; R. O'C., San Francisco; W. Runk, Highland Falls, N. Y.; G. Patterson, Winnipeg, Can.; O. C. Pitkin, Syracuse, N. Y.; C. N. F., Rome, Ga.; W. T. St. Auburn, Grossepointe Farms, Mich.; W. G. Hosea, Cincinnati; "Arata," New York City; E. N. K., Harrisburg, Pa.; J. Francis, Nashville; C. H. Schneider, Ossian, Ind.; J. E. Wharton, Sherman, Tex.; F. Altschul, New York City; E. A. C., Kinderhook, N. Y.; C. W. and H. A., Staunton, Va.; J. H. Cravens, Kansas City, Mo.

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1 Q—R 7 — B—B 5 2 No mate

1 Q—R 3 — B—B 3 2 No mate.

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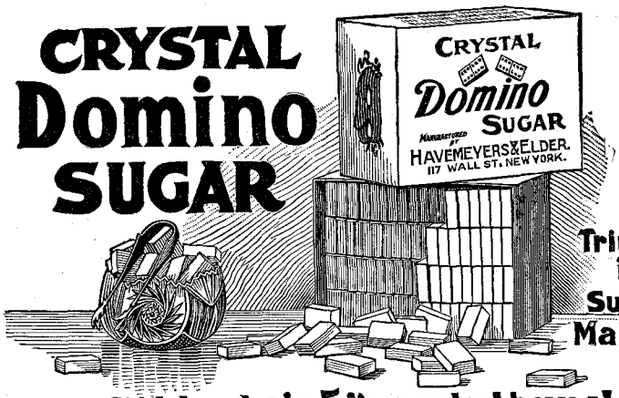

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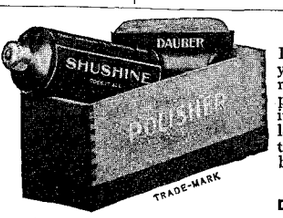

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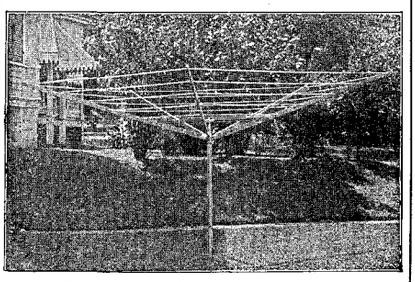

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The San Francisco End-Game.

Special attention has been called to this wonderful end-game by its publication in *The British Chess-Magazine*, with solution by Mr. C. E. C. Tatterstall, of the Metropolitan Chess-Club, London. Mr. Dolan, of San Francisco, who claims the authorship of the position, questions the correctness of the analysis published in THE LITERARY DIGEST. Mr. Reichhelm sent us the following:

Dear Chess-Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:

I herewith present the line of play which meets the variation on move 7 suggested by the San Francisco critics.

Moves 1 to 6 as before.

7	K—K 7	Q—Q Kt sq (a)
8	Q—B 6	Q—Q R sq (b)
9	Q—K 8	Q—Kt 2 ch
10	K—B 8	K—R sq
11	Q—Q 8 (c)	Q—R 2 (d)
12	Q—Q 6	Q—R 7 (e)
13	K—K 8	K—R 2
14	Q—K 7	Q—R sq ch
15	Q—Q 8	Q—Kt 2
16	Q—Q 7 wins.	

Comments.

(a) The San Francisco defense.

(b) If Q—Q B sq, then Q—Q 7 as in trunk play.

(c) Q x P cannot be played on account of Q—K 2 ch.

(d) If 11 .., K—R 2; 12 Q—Q 6, Q—R 2.

(On 12.., K—R sq; 13 K—K 8, K—R 2; 14 Q—Q 7, etc.).

(On 12 .., Q—Kt 6; 13 Q—K 7, Q—Kt sq, ch; 14 Q—K 8, etc.).

13 K—K8; Q—R 7. (On 13.., Q—Kt 2; 14 Q—Q 7, etc.).

14 Q—K 7, Q—R sq, ch; 15 Q—Q 8, Q—Kt 2; 16 Q—Q 7 wins.

(e) If 12.., K—R 2; 13 Q—Q 7, Q—Kt sq, ch; 14 Q—K 8, etc.

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Took Him at His Word. — SARCASTIC FATHER: "Julia, that young man Smily has been here three nights in succession, and it has been nearly midnight when he left. Hadn't you better invite him to bring his trunk and make his home with us?"

INNOCENT DAUGHTER: "O papa! may I? It is just what he wanted, but he was too bashful to ask you. He'll be delighted when I tell him this evening."—*Tit-Bits.*

Italian Viewpoint. —"Why, see here, you've raised the price of your bananas again!"

"Yes, yes. Me raisa price. Too mucha war."

"What's the war got to do with it?"

"War raisa price. Raise price of bread. Raisa price of meat. Raisa price of banan'."

"Nonsense. Why should war raise the price of bananas?"

"War raisa price. Russia man, Japa man, buy aplenty banan'. Eata banan', throw skin down so! Long come greata general, step on banan' skin, whoof! He fall and breaka his head. All ze generals fall. Take much banan'. War raisa price."—Cleveland *Plain Dealer.*

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How Easter is observed in the Greek Church. By Gideon Draper, D.D.

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